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SQUABBLE AHEAD FOR BOBBLEHEAD

WHILE COUNCILLORS WILL URGE ROB FORD TO TAKE A LEAVE AND TALK TO POLICE, THEY SAY THE MAYOR WON'T GET THE FIGHT HE IS SEEKING

PAGE 3

Veteran asked to lower flag, then arrested

Davyn Calfchild was carrying a purple Iroquois Confederacy flag at a Remembrance Day ceremony in Toronto PAGE 4

A shootout? Talk about drama

In which Shannon seems unconcerned about the fate of Mr. Taylor PAGE 23

Reunited and it feels so... wretched!

The Best Man Holiday reminds us of other movies about seeing old friends and frenemies PAGE 25

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

Get ready to pay more for that ride

TTC cash-strapped.
Transit agency seeks more money from both the city and riders

The TTC is proposing to hike fares by more than a nickel in the new year to raise an extra $36.5 million toward the costs of operating the system.

The nickel increase on the price of a token would be applied proportionally to other fares, including the Metropass.

In addition, a staff report that will go before the board next week recommends one of the following options: a 25-cent increase on the $3 cash fare, which is used by about 10 per cent of riders, or an additional increase in the Metropass, used by about half of riders, so that its cost is the equivalent of 49.5 tokens rather than today's 48.5.

Although the price of a Metropass has increased with inflation since 2010, the effective cost per ride has actually dropped because pass users are riding an average of 74 times on their passes rather than 70, says the report.

The five-cent recommended 2014 fare rise would take the cost of the adult Metropass to $131 a month from the current $128.50. If the board decides to add a trip to the pass formula, it will be $133.50. In 2010, a Metropass cost $121.

With the available federal tax credit, "(the Metropass) is still a pretty good deal, but it's not sustainable," said TTC spokesman Brad Ross.

It's been three years since the TTC raised its cash fares.

The city manager has also agreed to an increase in the TTC's operating subsidy, which has been flatlined at $411 million on its $1.5-billion operating budget for the past two years. As part of Toronto's overall budget, that subsidy increase must still be passed by city council.

This year, the TTC is looking for a subsidy of $428 million to serve its expanding ridership.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Shortfall

$2.7B

In addition, the TTC needs $2.7 billion over the next 10 years to keep the existing system running safely and efficiently, as well as any improvements to stations and other infrastructure.

CROSS-ATLANTIC TRIUMPH

Quebec rower Mylene Paquette celebrates as she arrives in Lorient, France, Tuesday, after a solo journey across the Atlantic Ocean. Paquette, 35, is the first North American woman to row solo across the North Atlantic. She left Halifax just over four months ago in a specially designed, 7.3-metre boat propelled only by Paquette and the currents. Story, page 6. DAVID VINCENT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ford ready for fight at council

City hall. Mayor anticipates 'rumble in the jungle' session vs. councillors who want him to step aside

Mayor Rob Ford poses with a well-wisher at city hall on Tuesday. Hundreds of people lined up to be the first to own a Ford bobblehead. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mayor Rob Ford is gearing up for an unprecedented showdown at city hall on Wednesday, when Toronto council is expected to tackle the crack-cocaine scandal that is making international headlines and distracting from city business.

The day could become even more dramatic if a Superior Court judge issues his decision on whether to release more censored police documents that would reveal further details about the five-month police investigation into Ford's activities.

But despite the task councillors face in urging him to take a leave of absence "to address personal issues," many are saying they won't give the mayor the fight he is seeking.

Ford has indicated that he plans to vault the motion about the leave to the top of the agenda, making it a key item at the first council meeting since his stunning admission last week that he has smoked crack cocaine while in office.

The motion put forward by Coun. Denzil Minnan-Wong also calls on Ford to apologize for "misleading" residents.

It further asks him to "cooperate fully" with police. Minnan-Wong said he plans to amend the motion to ask the province to intervene if the mayor refuses to step aside.

Asked about the upcoming council session as he signed hundreds of Rob Ford bobbleheads at city hall on Tuesday, the mayor trotted out a familiar boxing reference, telling reporters it would be a "rumble in the jungle."

Coun. Doug Ford, meanwhile, predicted his brother is in for "a public flogging."

But the brothers' tough talk was dismissed by Coun. Jaye Robinson, who said, "I think maybe they're trying to appeal to Ford Nation with that kind of language and approach.

"I don't actually think it's going to be a public flogging at all. People just want to vote and move on."

Coun. Adam Vaughan, a staunch Ford critic, put it more bluntly: "As far as I'm concerned, I've already heard too much from him.... It's time for him to be ignored," Vaughan said. "I'm not going to flog this dead horse on the floor of council anymore."

There is no mechanism for council to remove the mayor, so Minnan-Wong's motion is largely symbolic. But while there appears to be widespread support among councillors to urge the mayor to take a leave, Robinson said "there's just no appetite for asking the province to step in."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

"As far as I'm concerned, I've already heard too much from him.... It's time for him to be ignored."

Coun. Adam Vaughan

Liberals won't kick mayor out: Minister

Charles Sousa TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The provincial government will not try to remove embattled Mayor Rob Ford because of the dangerous "precedent" it would set, says Finance Minister Charles Sousa.

"We do have a democratic system — an individual elected by the people of the city," Sousa told the Torstar News Service on Tuesday.

"And the precedent that this would create in other parts of Ontario, in other municipalities — whose decision is it? Has anyone been charged? There's a rule of law here. Who else would we want out?" he said, warning of a slippery slope for the province.

"So I'm not going to ... speculate. There's been other instances with other councillors and other mayors in other parts of the province that have had difficulties."

That was an apparent reference to London Mayor Joe Fontana, who faces charges over allegations that he used taxpayer money to help pay for his son's wedding reception in June 2005.

Fontana, who has remained on the job, will soon go on trial for charges of fraud under $5,000, uttering a forged document and breach of trust by a public official. In contrast, Ford has not been charged with any offence.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Native flag on Remembrance Day leads to veteran's arrest

Just a wavin' flag?
Activist says no one supported him

JESSICA SMITH CROSS
jessica.smithcross@metronews.ca

A veteran was arrested on Monday at the Remembrance Day ceremony at Old City Hall, after he refused to stop flying his native flag.

Davyn Calfchild was carrying a purple Iroquois Confederacy flag and a friend was carrying a Mohawk Warrior flag when police approached them before the ceremony began.

The interaction was filmed and posted to YouTube. The video shows what happened next. "I don't care what you want, I served this country five years, I've got every right to stand here," Calfchild said.

When the officer persisted, he spoke louder, saying. "You don't f**king tell me what do."

When the officer told them they were creating a disturbance, Calfchild and two friends began yelling and police arrested them without a struggle.

Police spokeswoman Const. Wendy Drummond said the officers felt the flags were disruptive to the other people in attendance.

"As is clear in the video, the officers were very professional and respectful; however they were met with swearing and belligerence and it was at that point officers arrested the three to stop any further disruption to the ceremony. The three (including the videographer) were released soon after the ceremony was over," she said.

They were arrested for breach of peace for swearing at the officers, but were released without being charged.

"This had nothing to do with the type of flag or who these people were. It had to do with the disruption to the Remembrance Day service."

Calfchild is an activist who is frequently involved in protests. He said he was at the ceremony not to protest but to show solidarity with other veterans and to show that native people weren't being represented at the ceremony, despite their military service.

Davyn Calfchild waves the flag he had when arrested on Remembrance Day outside 52 Division. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"I'm a veteran. I'd see them (veterans) carry their flags all the time and I think I should be able to carry my own," he said.

Calfchild said he's carried flags before and they've never bothered other veterans, but it has bothered police.

"I get good support, not just from veterans but from members of the community," he said. "It was supposed to be a public event, it was supposed to be about us."

Calfchild said he signed up for service when he was 18 and served from 1992 to 1997, mainly as a peacekeeper in Yugoslavia.

"Even though people are saying it was wrong for the police to do that, I was disappointed that the people there didn't stand up and do anything," he said. "That kind of bothers me about the citizens of Toronto."

Hayden King, chair of the Centre for Indigenous Governance at Ryerson University, said the officers' behaviour in the video is shameful. He said the arrests are an example of the misunderstanding and poor relationship between indigenous people and police. For example, he said the police likely see the flags as "symbols of native unrest" when they are symbols of nationhood and pride.

"Flags are powerful symbols. Native veterans enlisted in the Great War and Second World War, the Korean War and Afghanistan as allies to Canada, but generally they fought under their own flags," he said. "It's disrespectful that native veterans aren't able to honour their flags like Canadians are able to honour their flag."

City nearing deal to save Bixi bike-share plan

Bixi bike racks in Toronto. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The city government and Bixi have resurrected a deal to keep the troubled bike-sharing service alive — a deal that may involve a $5 million toilets-for-bikes trade.

"I'm extremely optimistic," city cycling manager Daniel Egan said in an interview Tuesday, a day before the meeting at which council will vote on Bixi's future.

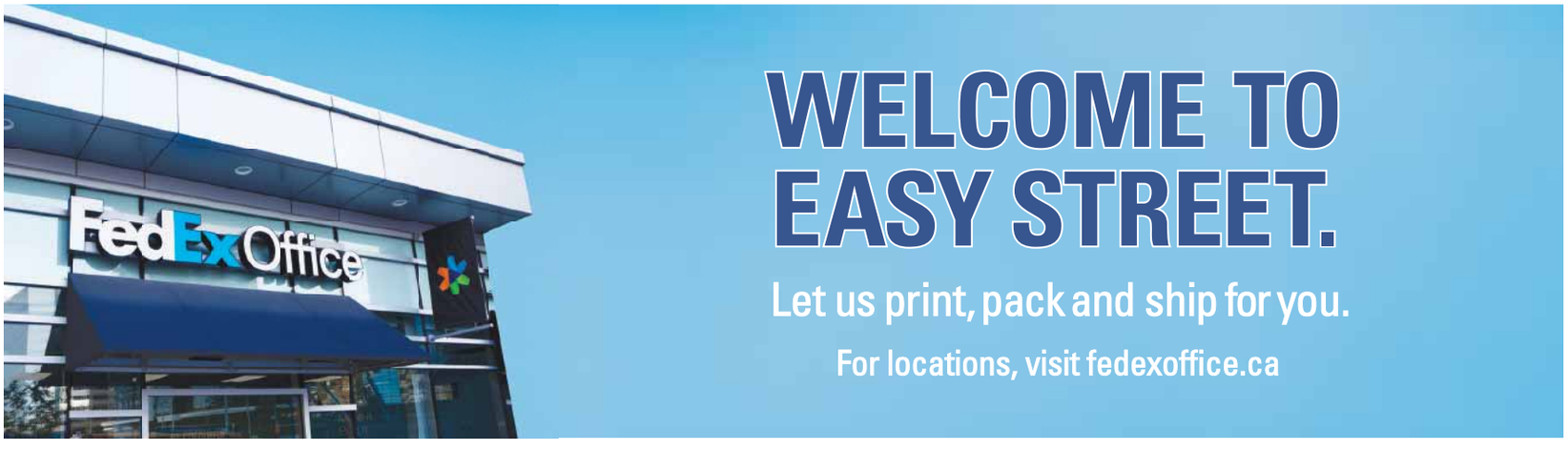
Coun. Denzil Minnan-Wong, chair of the public works committee, said two weeks ago he wasn't sure it was "possible to save Bixi." He said Bixi had attempted at the "11th hour" to change the terms of a proposed agreement.

Egan suggested Tuesday that the problems have been resolved. "There were some shifts, but now things are looking good," he said.

Bixi has struggled to make ends meet in Toronto since it was launched in 2011. According to a confidential Oct. 15 city report obtained by Torstar News Service, Bixi is "insolvent or imminently insolvent due to the fact that revenues generated by the system have not been sufficient to cover costs."

Mayor Rob Ford says the service is a "failure" that should be allowed to die. But many councillors say it is an essential piece of transportation infrastructure, and the city is on the hook for the $3.7 million outstanding on a $4.5-million start-up loan council guaranteed.

The city has not revealed anything about its vision for Bixi. But according to the Oct. 15 report from transportation chief Stephen Buckley, the plan, as of a month ago, was to transfer ownership of Bixi to the city-owned Toronto Parking Authority, which would then find a "qualified operator." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Canadian rower conquers the North Atlantic

Solo journey. Mylene Paquette overcomes storms and squalls, but not her fear of water

A Canadian rower says she has become the first North American to complete a solo journey across the churning seas of the treacherous North Atlantic.

Mylene Paquette reached the shores of France on Tuesday after a 5,000-kilometre voyage from Halifax, a four-month odyssey that saw her overcome the volatility of nearly a dozen storms, the power of 12-metre-high swells and the shock of capsizing 10 times.

Paquette, however, still didn't find a way to conquer her fear of water.

"I'm scared in the pool and in a big bath," the Montrealer told reporters on a conference call shortly after landing in the French port city of Lorient.

Mylene Paquette celebrates as she arrives at the Lorient harbour in France on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taking a beating

Mylene Paquette said her 7.3-metre boat, named the Hermel, capsized 10 times during storms that generated towering waves, though her specially designed vehicle righted itself each time. She suffered only minor injuries as she bounced about inside the cabin, which kept her from falling into the sea.

"I don't really understand what I'm scared of. Maybe it's because I've been watching too much Jaws ..."

Paquette, 35, said her solo rowing trip was just the 13th successful mission of its kind across the North Atlantic out of about 35 attempts. Three solo rowers were lost at sea during those unsuccessful tries, according to Oceanrowing.com, which compiles statistics on such journeys.

U.S. citizen Tori Murden's solo rowing trip across the Atlantic in 1999, from the Canary Islands west to the Caribbean island of Guadeloupe, has been recognized as the first by a North American woman.

But the more-northern expanse of the Atlantic is much more difficult to navigate than its sections further to the south, Paquette said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Worst. Winners. Ever.

The winners of the Metro contest to meet Douglas Coupland strike a pose with the renowned author at the Ted Rogers School of Management on Tuesday. From left, Shelley MacLellan, Morgan Cadenhead, Joanne Drapeau, Douglas Coupland, Erin Hatton and Brad Davidson. The lucky five also picked up an autographed copy of Coupland's latest book, Worst. Person. Ever., and received VIP seating at Metro's Reader Event. TOM PANDI/FOR METRO

U of T's disappearing act

The last thing two University of Toronto researchers want to hear is a Klingon joke. It seems to be the only point of reference lay people have when discussing their latest discovery: an invisibility cloak.

George Eleftheriades, an electrical and computer engineering professor, and his graduate student, Michael Selvanayagam, can hide a metal cylinder from radio wave detection, or make it appear bigger, smaller or even look like plastic.

The results of their work were published in the journal Physical Review X on Tuesday.

"We came up with a different way of cloaking," an excited Eleftheriades said. "We can make things invisible or we can camouflage them. Let me explain."

RADAR is the easiest way to explain cloaking. When a radio wave is sent out and hits, say, a metal cylinder, it bounces off it, leaving a telltale signature. In 2006, Duke University researchers discovered cloaking through the use of metamaterials — like a thick glossy coating that bends waves. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Michael Selvanayagam, left, and Dr. George Eleftheriades in the lab with their cloaking device.
RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Firms chosen for waterfront trail and park

Ontario Place. Huge parking lot to become green space in first phase of revitalization

Toronto and Rotterdam waterfront-design firms have been hired to breathe life into the provincially-owned, moribund Ontario Place.

The project will turn a 7.5-acre parking lot into a park and waterfront trail, making it accessible to the public for the first time 40 years.

LANDinc and West 8 will be in charge of the design, the government announced Tuesday. The firms were chosen for their experience with large waterfront projects, such as Toronto's Tommy Thompson Park and New York's Governors Island Park.

"This is an exciting step in the creation of new green space on Toronto's waterfront. I look forward to seeing the design of this important public feature take shape over the coming months," said Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Glen Murray in a statement.

Ontario Place, which opened on May 22, 1971 and closed in 2011, consists of three artificially constructed, landscaped islands.

When completed, the new urban park and waterfront trail will link to the existing 780-kilometre waterfront trail system, which stretches from Niagara-on-the-Lake to east of Cornwall.

The province is hoping to open the park and trail in time for the 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games, which run from July 10 to 26 and Aug. 7 to 14, respectively.

"With a high-calibre and distinguished design team selected, we are moving forward to re-imagine and revitalize the Ontario Place site," stated Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport Michael Chan.

Chan encourages people from across the province to offer their ideas on what to do with Ontario Place so "we can best meet the public's needs and support long-term revitalization of the waterfront."

The first public meeting will be held on Dec. 4 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

Cohesive plan

"The eastern side (of the island) with seven acres is the first phase that helps connect the waterfront trail, and that's what we are working on.... It's kind of the missing link."

Patrick Morello, project director for LANDinc

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

We got together and it felt all right

The Kenyan Boys Choir performed a version of Bob Marley's One Love during a visit to Metro HQ on Tuesday. The group is a long-time supporter of Free The Children and is performing with the We Day 2013 tour across the country. The choir was formed in 1998 to help underprivileged boys pay their school fees. They performed at the inauguration of U.S. President Barack Obama in 2009, garnering worldwide attention. DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO

Convicted grandmother has a valuable story to tell: Lawyer

A woman convicted of killing her grandson could provide the inquest into the Toronto boy's case with valuable insights that could help prevent similar deaths in the future, her lawyer argued Tuesday.

Elva Bottineau is seeking standing at the coroner's inquest into the starvation of five-year-old Jeffrey Baldwin, who died in her care 11 years ago.

A lawyer presenting her application says Bottineau's family ties to Jeffrey and her involvement in his death mean she has "relevant evidence" that could help the jury make its recommendations.

Elva Bottineau, who has been convicted of killing her grandson.
TONY BOCK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bottineau is looking to testify on Jeffrey's transfer into her care and the support she received from the Catholic Children's Aid Society during that time, Erin McDermid said.

"She does not seek to absolve herself of responsibility somehow" or otherwise derail the proceedings, she said.

Some have questioned whether Bottineau — who has borderline mental retardation — would be able to follow instructions barring her from broaching certain topics.

The coroner is expected to rule on Bottineau's application Wednesday.

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Condom slogan causes uproar at Calgary school

'Anonymously get inside.' What creators say was an 'innocent joke' called 'borderline rape paraphernalia' by student newspaper

JEREMY NOLAIS
Metro in Calgary

Students at Calgary's Mount Royal University have come under intense scrutiny after planning to distribute up to 1,000 condoms with the message "Anonymously get inside" on them.

Those most bothered by the initiative, steered by administrators with the MRU Confessions Facebook page, are alleging it "promotes rape culture" and are demanding an apology.

While the moderators of the page said Tuesday they intend to solicit a new slogan from one of nearly 7,000 followers of their Facebook page, they maintained the condoms were meant as an "innocent joke."

"We weren't made aware of the gravity of it until people started mentioning it to us publicly … I'll say that, on our part, maybe we should have thought it through," said one man, who identified himself as "Admin2."

Tensions at Mount Royal's campus came to a head after an opinion piece was published by staff with the student newspaper, The Reflector, which deemed the condoms "Borderline rape paraphernalia."

The Facebook page's administrators dismissed those claims as "absurd," and said the slogan was a play on an event called "Masked Anonymous" they hosted for Mount Royal students in October.

The slogan on these condoms has come under criticism from peers and faculty at Calgary's Mount Royal University. FACEBOOK

3 girls hurt after car crashes into daycare

A police officer surveys the scene after a car crashed into a daycare centre in Laval, Que., Tuesday. Three children were taken to hospital with minor injuries. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Three young girls escaped with minor injuries Tuesday in Laval, Que. after a car smashed through the plate-glass window of a daycare centre they attended and came to rest in a play area.

The children were rushed to hospital for treatment along with the driver of the car, an 80-year-old woman who suffered shock and minor injuries to her back, said Const. Franco Di Genova.

The three girls were aged three, four and five years old and were not seriously injured, Di Genova said, adding one of them had been released from hospital and another was expected to be sent home by the end of the afternoon.

One little girl was either hit by the vehicle or flying debris and suffered wounds to her face, said Di Genova. She was expected to be released from hospital on Wednesday.

A doctor at Montreal's Ste-Justine Hospital said she is stable and that the injuries could have been much worse.

"We're pleased the injuries are not as serious as we could imagine given the situation," said Dr. Antonio D'Angelo, the emergency room chief at the hospital.

The daycare is located at street level in a strip mall on one of the main streets in the city north of Montreal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa

Thief flees with woman's ponytail in bizarre attack

A man snuck up behind a woman in Ottawa on Sunday and lopped off her ponytail, police say.

The thief "grabbed the woman from behind, controlled her and then proceeded to cut off the victim's ponytail," a police news release said.

The victim fought the thief who then fled with the hair.

METRO IN OTTAWA

London

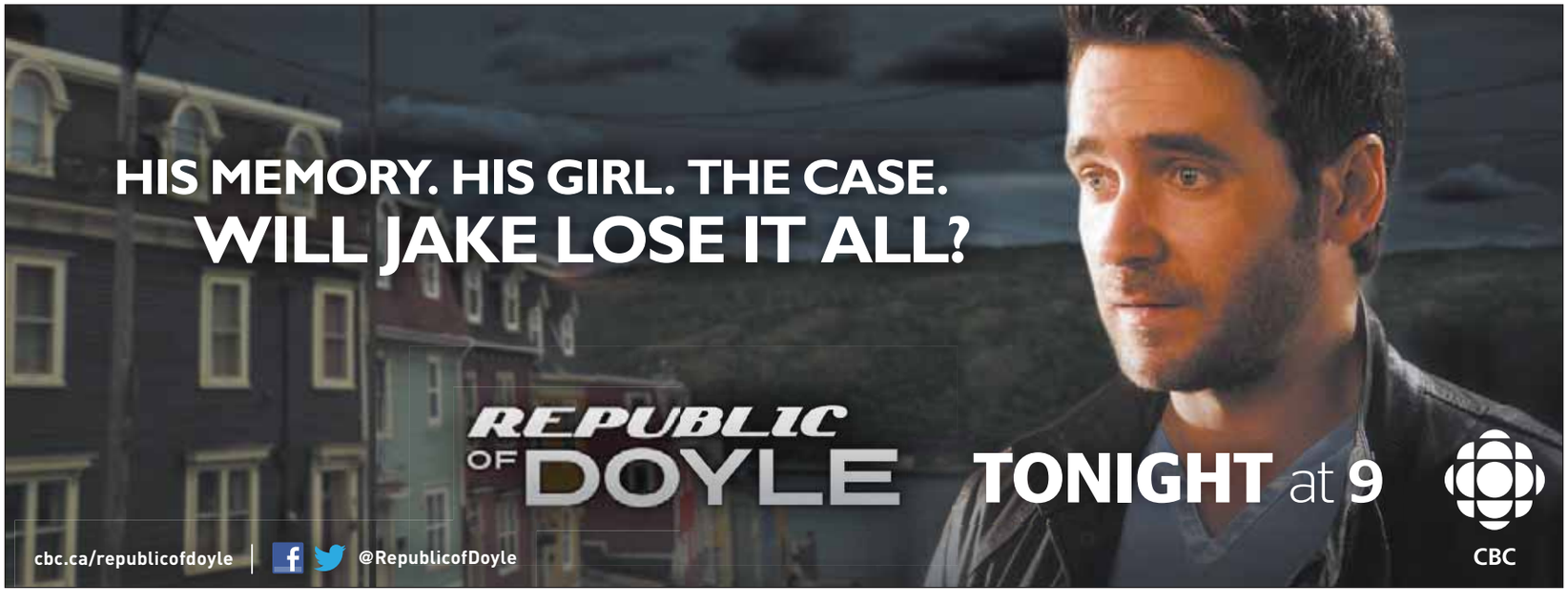
Plan to let seniors bike on sidewalks may still go ahead

London, Ont.'s director of roads and transportation admits it's more dangerous for cyclists to ride on sidewalks than on city streets, but said seniors may still be allowed to do so.

Ed Soldo said a plan to allow London's seniors to use sidewalks rather than traffic-heavy streets may still fly, but after several people voiced concerns about the proposal, more public input is required before it gets the green light.

The idea was pitched after the city consulted with seniors and many said they feel more at risk on streets.

METRO IN LONDON



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Artist explains bizarre Moscow protest

EVGENIY MORUZ
Metro World News in Moscow

The performance artist who was arrested after stripping naked and nailing his scrotum to the cobblestones of Red Square has been released. Pyotr Pavlensky, 29, drove a nail through his genitals on Sunday while sitting on Russia's most famous square before police took him to the hospital and then to custody. A court dismissed charges of "petty hooliganism" and released him Monday. Metro spoke with Pavlensky to find out how he managed to perform his stunt.

Q: How did you pull this stunt before they could stop you?
A: I understood that there is surveillance everywhere. But I had an advantage because every other illegal protest on Red Square has people waving flags and is very visible. The police can react on such things.

Q: What was the message behind your performance?
A: I heard that when conditions are bad in prison, convicts drive nails into their bodies. To this I added an act of humility before my country. What I mean is that people find what is excessive, on what nails them but they do nothing. It makes them feel helpless.

Q: Did you speak with doctors about the possible consequences of such performance?
A: I didn't notice any consequences to my health. You know, I didn't try to nail my eye! When I was nailing my testicles I wasn't scared at all, but when I was preparing (for the stunt), I was. All the fears and phobias doubled up.

Q: How did you prepare?
A: I thought about my clothes. And I tried to undress quickly. I had to be sure that I could take off my clothes in 40 seconds. Otherwise, the stunt could fail.

No stranger to pain

- In 2012, the artist sewed his mouth shut with a coarse thread in support of Pussy Riot.
- In May this year, in a demonstration called "Carcass," Pavlensky wrapped his naked body in a "cocoon" of barbed wire until he was freed with wire clippers.

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No riding the art, please

Workers uncrate a pendulum sculpture near Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich., prior to it being reinstalled Tuesday. It was removed in September due to safety concerns as the cable had begun to fray as students used it to mimic a Miley Cyrus video.

CHRIS CLARK/THE GRAND RAPIDS PRESS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Was she playing Miley? Spanish woman sues piano-playing neighbour

To most people, noise pollution is a jet engine roaring over their head. For one Spanish woman, it was a neighbour practising piano.

The woman has taken her neighbours in the apartment below — a 27-year-old pianist and her parents — to court. Now prosecutors want to send all three to jail for over seven years on charges of psychological damage and noise pollution.

Neighbours often complain about street and bar noise in Spain, but prosecutors seeking jail time for someone playing the piano is unheard of — especially since that musician is now a professional concert pianist.

At the trial in the northeastern city of Gerona, Sonia Bosom claimed she suffered noise pollution from 2003 to 2007 due to the five-days-a-week, eight-hour practice sessions of Laia Martin.

Martin, 27, denies that she played at home that often.

On Monday, the El Pais newspaper reported that Bosom told the court she now hates pianos so much she can't even stand to see them in a film.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Food, water, medical supplies only trickling into Philippines

Tacloban. The city of 220,000 on Leyte island, bore the full force of the winds and the tsunami-like storm surges Friday

Desperately needed food, water and medical aid are only trickling into this city that took the worst blow from Typhoon Haiyan, while thousands of victims jammed the damaged airport Tuesday, seeking to be evacuated.

"We need help. Nothing is happening. We haven't eaten since yesterday afternoon," pleaded a weeping Aristone Balute, an 81-year-old woman who failed to get a flight out of Tacloban for Manila, the capital. Her clothes were soaked from a pouring rain and tears streamed down her face.

Five days after what could be the Philippines' deadliest disaster, aid is coming — pallets of supplies and teams of doctors are waiting to get into Tacloban — but the challenges of delivering the assistance means few in the stricken city have received help.

"There is a huge amount that we need to do. We have not been able to get into the remote communities," UN humanitarian chief Valerie Amos said in Manila, launching an appeal for $301 million to help the more than 11 million people estimated to be affected by the storm.

"Even in Tacloban, because of the debris and the difficulties with logistics and so on, we have not been able to get in the level of supply that we would want to. We are going to do as much as we can to bring in more," she said. Her office said she planned to visit the city.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Philippine military personnel try to prioritize children and women first as people wait for evacuation flights in Tacloban, central Philippines, Tuesday. WALLY SANTANA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The aftermath

Most of Tacloban is in ruins, a tangled mess of destroyed houses, cars and trees. Malls, garages and shops have all been stripped of food and water by hungry residents.

- 11 million people affected by storm, UN humanitarian affairs estimates.
- 1,774 confirmed dead.
- At least 2,487 people hurt.
- President says death toll may be lower than 10,000 estimate.
- No reports so far of Canadian deaths or injuries.

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A young man attempted to extort nude photographs of women including Miss Teen USA Cassidy Wolf. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hacker spied on Miss Teen USA

Cybercrime. 19-year-old secretly photographed Miss Teen USA and other young women with their own webcams

Threats

"Your dream of being a model will be transformed into a porn star."
Jared James Abrahams told Cassidy Wolf, according to an FBI affidavit.

A computer-science student pleaded guilty Tuesday in Santa Ana, Calif., to hacking into the computers of at least a dozen women, including Miss Teen USA Cassidy Wolf.

"I hacked several girls' computers and, using their webcams, took photos of them when they weren't aware," Jared James Abrahams said in court.

Abrahams faces up to 11 years in prison and fines of up to $1 million.

Court records say he sent the women anonymous emails telling them he had downloaded nude photos of them. He told them he would publish the images on social media sites if they didn't send him additional pictures or undress for him.

In Wolf's case, Abrahams was able to take nude photos of her without her knowledge, authorities said. He posted a naked photo of Wolf online after she didn't respond to him.

Abrahams told the judge he has autism and has been under treatment for the past 10 years. He said he was on three medications Tuesday, but he said they wouldn't affect his ability to enter a guilty plea.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

British Columbia

Organic farmers concerned about new GM apple

The Society for a GE-Free BC and the Canadian Biotechnology Action Network are staging a series of events in British Columbia and Alberta to raise awareness about a new genetically engineered apple that doesn't brown.

They say the United States is one step closer to approving the genetically modified apple but organic farmers are concerned it will lead to GM contamination in other crops. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Security. New study warns clear policies needed before drones take flight

A groundbreaking research report on drones urges government to create policies about the sort of personal information flying drones are allowed to collect before Canadian police and others begin using them on a large scale

It says unmanned aerial vehicles, or UAVs, can offer potentially significant cost savings for police and could be useful for responding to emergencies or performing mundane chores.

However, the "potential for intrusive and massive surveillance" means public discussion is needed to reassure Canadians they will not be arbitrarily spied on. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Draganflyer drone is photographed during a test flight. THE CANADIAN PRESS

5 women held under Senegal's anti-gay law

Women's Smile. 30 women interrogated so far this year by police on suspicion of violating penal code, activist group says

Senegalese police detained five women accused of violating the country's anti-gay law, highlighting increased pressure on suspected lesbians in the deeply conservative West African nation, an activist group said Tuesday.

The five women were detained early Monday morning during a birthday party at a restaurant in Dakar's Yoff district that has been described in the Senegalese press as a meeting point for gay men and lesbians, said Ndeye Kebe, president of the activist group Women's Smile.

The oldest of the suspects, 31-year-old Sene Dieng, is an assistant director at Women's Smile, the only group in Senegal to advocate for lesbians' rights.

The five women were expected to appear in court Tuesday, though Kebe said they had been unable to afford a lawyer.

Senegal's penal code calls for prison sentences of up to five years and fines of up to $3,000 for committing "an improper or unnatural act with a person of the same sex." Since 2008, the Muslim-majority country has been gripped by what Human Rights Watch describes as an anti-gay "moral panic," with arrests and mob justice on the rise.

As in other sub-Saharan African countries that enforce laws criminalizing homosexual acts, Senegalese police have primarily targeted gay men for arrest and extortion, and raids against suspected lesbians are fairly rare. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hawaii Senate passes gay marriage bill

Gay marriage supporters rally outside the Hawaii Capitol in Honolulu Tuesday ahead of a vote on same-sex marriages. The state Senate passed a bill 19-4 Tuesday legalizing gay marriage, putting Hawaii a signature away from becoming a same-sex wedding destination. It will allow thousands of gay couples living in Hawaii and even more tourists to marry in the state starting Dec. 2. OSKAR GARCIA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russia

Pussy Riot member transferred to Siberian prison

Russia's human rights ombudsman says imprisoned Pussy Riot band member Nadezhda Tolokonnikova has been transferred to a prison in Siberia.

Her whereabouts had been unknown, and her husband has complained that he has had no contact with her for weeks.

Tolokonnikova received a two-year sentence following the band's provocative political protest in Moscow's main cathedral in early 2012.

She went on a hunger strike in September to protest prison conditions and was hospitalized. The prison service later said she would be transferred.

Rights ombudsman Vladimir Lukin told Russian news agencies on Tuesday that Tolokonnikova is in a medical unit at a prison in the Krasnoyarsk region of Siberia.

He did not name the prison, but said official notice of her whereabouts would be sent to her relatives and lawyers soon. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Wynne urges pension improvement

Income security. Ontario leader believes Canada is headed for an economic crisis if retirement income isn't improved

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne told a business audience in Toronto Tuesday that the provinces and the federal government must take action now to improve retirement incomes.

"One of our fundamental priorities is retirement income security, especially for the middle class," she said. "People are not saving enough for retirement and if we let this go unchecked we're going to face a huge economic crisis."

Planning ahead

"If we don't find a way to do this now, we will pay later."
Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne

Ontario's Liberal government recently announced it would create a provincial retirement income plan if it can't convince Ottawa and the other provinces to enhance the Canada Pension Plan.

"I believe that governments have to ensure a reliable and responsible retirement income system, one that evolves and responds to the practical realities of the times that we're dealing with," Wynne told the ACG Capital Connections conference.

Wynne will raise the retirement income issue with the other provincial and territorial leaders when they meet Friday in Toronto. She also intends to push the subject of pension reform when the premiers meet with Prime Minister Stephen Harper next month.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kathleen Wynne TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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City council. Toronto water rates set to rise again

A previous decision to increase water rates by nine per cent annually for nine years comes to an end in 2014, but now city councillors are proposing to continue with eight per cent hikes taking place in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

Once the final nine per cent hike is added next year, the average residential customer using 300 cubic metres annually will pay $887.

If city council follows up with eight per cent increases, the average bill will climb to more than $1,100 by 2017.

Toronto Water general manager Lou Di Gironimo told the budget committee that the rate increases are needed to generate funds to upgrade stormwater runoff capacity and thus prevent flooded basements during heavy storms. Between now and 2023, Toronto needs to do almost $1 billion of work that is not currently funded, he said.

By signalling that city council is prepared to hike rates, water officials can begin to plan and design repairs and upgrades, said Coun. Gord Perks.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto Water general manager Lou Di Gironimo says water rates must continue to increase to fund repairs and improvements. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Crime. Man charged in stolen identity case

Fraud charges have been laid eight years after a Toronto man's life turned into a "nightmare" when his identity was stolen.

Brian Perrault says he nearly went bankrupt after an alleged fraudster assumed his identity and racked up thousands of dollars in debt.

But he says the worst came when he was pulled over in a January 2012 traffic stop that turned into something out of an "episode of Cops" with three cruisers boxing in his truck on a York Region highway.

Perrault says that's when he found out that his driver's licence had been suspended and learned that someone using his identity had been involved in police pursuits.

Police say that spurred a 20-month investigation in both Ontario and Alberta that has now resulted in an arrest.

Midland, Ont., resident Robert Maitland, 47, faces a total of 57 charges including fraud, impersonation, possession of stolen property, identity theft, and breach of recognizance.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ontario court rules stiff gun sentences unlawful

Possession of loaded prohibited gun. Court struck down both the three-year mandatory minimum for a first offence and five years on the second offence

Mandatory minimum sentences for gun possession are "cruel and unusual punishment," Ontario's top court ruled Tuesday in striking down two planks of Ottawa's law-and-order agenda.

The sentencing laws, enacted as part of the Conservatives' 2008 omnibus bill, could see people sent to prison for three years for what would amount to a licence violation, the Court of Appeal for Ontario ruled.

The Appeal Court heard six appeals together because each involved a constitutional challenge to a mandatory minimum sentence for various firearm offences.

Lawyer Dirk Derstine, who headed up the main appeal, said there was a "mountain" of social science evidence that mandatory minimums do not have a deterrent effect.

The government will likely appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada, though it could probably get an amended law passed faster than the appeal could be heard at the top court, Derstine said.

The law had been previously struck down by an Ontario Superior Court judge in the case of Leroy Smickle. He was in his cousin's house posing for a Facebook picture with a loaded handgun when police burst in with a search warrant for the cousin.

Smickle was convicted of possession, but the judge ruled it would be cruel and unusual to send the first-time offender to prison for a "very foolish" act for three years. Smickle was given a one-year conditional sentence.

But the Appeal Court said that sentence was "totally inadequate" and ruled a sentence of about two years would have been appropriate without a mandatory minimum sentence.

The court raised the case of John Snobelen, a former Ontario cabinet minister who was charged after his wife told police — during marital difficulties — about a gun he bought in the U.S. and forgot to register. He received an absolute discharge because the Crown proceeded summarily. The three-year mandatory minimum is in place if the Crown proceeds by indictment, which is more serious.

By making it a hybrid offence, Parliament acknowledged that conduct captured by the offence runs the gamut, the court said. In Snobelen's case, if his wife had alleged Snobelen had used the presence of the gun to intimidate her, the Crown could have opted to proceed by indictment, the court wrote. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Standards of decency

"No system of criminal justice that would resort to punishments that 'outrage standards of decency' in the name of furthering the goals of deterrence and denunciation could ever hope to maintain the respect and support of its citizenry."

Ontario Appeal Court ruling

Former Ontario cabinet minister John Snobelen is pictured in this 1999 file photo where he auctioned off his pants and cowboy boots for charity. Snobelen was charged after his wife told police — during marital difficulties — about a gun he bought in the U.S. and forgot to register. He received an absolute discharge. NORTH BAY NUGGET-PAUL CHIVERS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Death of cable TV? Amazon follows lead of Netflix, Hulu with original shows

There's a new kid on the block at Culver Studios.

Inside a towering soundstage, just around the corner from where such television comedies as TBS' Cougar Town and Showtime's Episodes have been filmed, another production is in full swing. A set depicting a high-tech, two-storey office is hosting a boozy party scene for Betas, a comedy about a quirky crew of app creators in Silicon Valley.

But unlike its neighbouring productions, the new series will likely never air on TVs. Instead, it will stream on them, in addition to many other devices. Betas is one of the first original series from Amazon, the online retail giant who's taking a cue from Netflix and Hulu by producing its own shows that will only be available on Amazon Instant Video, a content service for paying members.

Amazon's move into content creation is another click in the evolution of online video, legitimized earlier this year by the success of House of Cards, from online streaming service Netflix. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Amazon is hoping the stars of its new show, Betas, will help lure subscribers to its burgeoning streaming service. AMAZON STUDIOS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Possibly looted by Nazis

German stolen-art website crashes

A website featuring artworks discovered in a Munich apartment crashed Tuesday because of heavy traffic, officials said, raising the pressure as they scramble to help people identify art possibly looted by the Nazis. Authorities posted 25 paintings from the more than 1,400 works discovered in the apartment of 80-year-old Cornelius Gurlitt, the son of a dealer who worked with the Nazis. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Silicon Valley smackdown

Apple, Samsung face off in court again over patents

A federal judge and lawyers for the world's two biggest smartphone makers began picking a jury Tuesday to determine how much Samsung Electronics owes Apple for copying vital iPhone and iPad features. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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416-249-7833 www.thesantaclausparade.ca

Whole Life Expo, November 22-24
Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North Building, Hall C
From Union Station, proceed west two blocks on Front Street.
416-515-1330 www.wholelifeexpo.ca

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A (fingerprint) scanner darkly

In 2002 Steven Spielberg's Minority Report was creeping audiences out with biometrics. These days what was once science fiction is now reality. Iris and fingerprint scans, as well as facial and voice recognition, have hit the mainstream. At a KFC in Indiana workers punch in, not via punch clock, but by putting their finger on a scanner. PETER MACDIARMID/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Vancouver picks up new habit: Recycling pesky cigarette butts

Up in smoke. The busy city has launched a project to turn butts, which litter its sidewalks, into industrial plastics

EMILY JACKSON
Metro in Vancouver

Smoke 'em if you got 'em — just don't forget to recycle 'em afterward.

Vancouver launched the world's first municipal cigarette butt recycling program on Tuesday, a pilot project that aims to get butts off the streets.

TerraCycle, a global company that recycles "stuff that can't be recycled" like chewing gum and dirty diapers, will install 110 recycling receptacles with stickers that say "Recycle Your Butts Here" TerraCycle founder Tom Szaky said Monday.

Staff from Downtown Eastside non-profits EMBERS and United We Can will collect the butts, with the bottle depot shipping the waste to TerraCycle for processing into industrial plastics.

TerraCycle is funding the pilot with the goal of replicating the program around the world.

"Vancouver was the first city, so we wanted to invest in it to make it happen," Szaky said. Two major American cities are already looking at copying the idea, he added.

The city will conduct "litter audits" before and after the bins were installed to see if cigarette waste actually decreases.

Reaction

- **Sherri, smoker:** "I always put it in the garbage — I try to be respectful. I think these are very productive things."
- **Charles Gauthier, Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association:** "This is a better solution since it deals with end product. All we were doing before was picking them up and throwing them away."
- **Irritated smoker:** "What about the people who pick up cigarette butts and roll their own smokes?"

Random biz fact of the day

1 of 6

1 out of 6 job seekers found their last job through a social network.
CAREERLEAF/NEXCAREER

GETTY IMAGES FILE

Market Minute

DOLLAR
95.30 ¢ (-0.14¢)

TSX
13,326.04 (-32.35)

OIL
$93.04 US (-$2.10)

GOLD
$1,271.20 US (-$9.90)

Natural gas: $3.64 US (+6¢)
Dow Jones: 15,750.67 (-32.43)

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Convenient timing?

Re-election fever: Feds to post $3.7B surplus in 2015

The Harper government says it will end seven years of deficits with a $3.7-billion surplus in 2015, just in time for the Conservatives to introduce tax cuts in advance of their re-election campaign. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Does Sotheby's have a buy now, pay later plan?

Sotheby's auctions are headlined by Wednesday's offering of The Pink Star, a vivid and flawless 59.60-carat diamond estimated to be worth more than $60 million US. The pricey jewel is the most valuable diamond ever to be offered at auction. A bevy of Swiss jewels, art, wine and watches are being auctioned in Geneva this week, where wealthy buyers flock or phone in from around the world. KEYSTONE/MARTIAL TREZZIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

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Douglas Coupland

Douglas Coupland's latest novel, Worst. Person. Ever., is available from Random House Canada.

Day 8

metronews.ca/temp

Help really wanted

A good nanny is hard to find

Although it seems there's no shortage of help-wanted and job-seeker postings for temporary workers online, some say finding a temporary worker is harder than some might think.

Melissa Namer, a Moose Jaw resident trying to find a child-care provider to look after her kids while she returns to school, said she's had no luck finding a temporary worker.

"I've had that ad up for about a month and I've had no successful people (apply)," she said in a phone interview.

"It's mostly teenagers and young kids who just want to make a few bucks, while I'm looking for someone to look after my kids while I'm in school."

She said while there has been some response, those applying have been under-qualified or unwilling to commit.

METRO IN REGINA

Jo Frost, the star of Supernanny
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Temp Stumbles Upon a Shootout

"Get back!" A policeman standing in front of the yellow-taped off parking lot barked at us to move. We saw police snipers on the roof.

Sarah No. 3 was close by and we asked what was happening.

"Kevin Taylor is bunkered inside the remains of the warehouse."

"And...?"

"He says he's going to kill himself."

"Oh God. Any hostages?"

"They don't think so."

Talk about drama. Just then, the Shoeman and his father, Xu Senior, pulled up across the street and came over. We filled them in. Xu Senior went in pursuit of more info while, as per our agreement, Shoeman pretended to speak English as though he'd been taught in Peoples' Glorious Education Facility Number 43,607: "This episode with gun create many unglorious feng shui problems. May jeopardize once benevolent deal to buy company."

The Sarahs both saw their buyout stake evaporating, panicked, and went to hunt for Mel from Payroll.

Shoeman reached into a Whole Foods paper bag for snacks. Once the Sarahs were out of earshot I asked him what he was eating.

"Two hundred bucks worth of raw unfarmed British Columbia salmon. Nothing like it for marathon training. Want some?"

"Ick, no thanks. Would a shooting really kill the sale of the company?"

"My dad's totally old school. He can't buy a building someone's died in. A standoff like this could be just as bad. I could care less, but I think we have to fly back to China tonight and discuss this with the family."

"Really?"

"Yup. Which also upsets my training schedule, because yesterday I found this perfect running track nearby — an elementary school they closed because of tax cuts. The soft unmown grass is perfect on my feet."

I grew worried... "What about ...what about our secret plan?"

He winked at me. "One day at a time, Shannon. By the way, I was guest at a poker night and I found out what they make at the defense contractor next door there."

It was like in the movies: guys in black running across the roof, with more guys closing in from all sides.

"What?"

"In-dash beverage caddies for drones."

"My sister would love that — hey wait — drones are unmanned!"

"Gotcha."

Then shots rang out. Holy crap! We ran and ducked behind a pickup. It was like in the movies: guys in black running across the roof, with more guys closing in from all sides. I was really frightened Kevin would get killed. He's a nice guy but life simply hasn't been too kind to him lately.

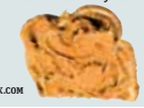
There was some silence and then we heard squeaking wheels, like a child's toy wagon. A moving dolly rolled out of the open double-wide doors of the warehouse. Duct-taped on top of it was a poorly-made effigy of Kevin from the waist up. It was holding a broomstick as a rifle and was shot through with bullets.

"Uh oh." TO BE CONTINUED...

Random fact of the day

Some people just can't cope in a sticky situation.

- Arachibutyrophobia is the fear of peanut butter sticking to the roof of your mouth.



SOURCE: ASK.COM

Random biz fact of the day

23%

Watch your language when you slam that overhyped Thai-food place: 23 per cent of employers review candidates' posts on Yelp.com and other rating sites. SOURCE: NEXCAREER

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BALONEY IS AS BALONEY DOES

JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

The Internet has changed everything, from shopping to sex.

It's even changed cheating. There's a web site based in Toronto called Ashley Madison that caters to consenting married people looking for an affair.

And it makes no bones about it: "Life is short. Have an affair" is the tag line.

The site contends that there are zillions of other like-minded cheaters just like you looking for a dangerous liaison. But one woman says many of the adventurous females on the site are fake profiles.

And she should know. She wrote 'em.

Someone named Doriana Silva claims she wrote 1,000 fake profiles in three weeks, so many that she came down with severe carpal tunnel syndrome, and is now suing the website for $20 million US for damages.

There's no honour among cheats, apparently.

Ashley Madison is owned by Toronto businessman Noel Biderman, who is worth $100 million US according to CelebrityNetWorth.com, mainly on the strength of AshleyMadison.com. There is no actual Ashley Madison, but that hasn't stopped over 17 million people from trying to hook up with her.

Biderman told Barbara Walters on The View that the reason the site is so popular is that it focuses on the needs of adult female cheetahs — and nothing attracts a male of the species more than a female of the same species.

So it's important that Ashleymadison.etc is fully stocked with attractive adult female cheetahs, even if they allegedly have to make up so many fakes that the profilers sustain $20 million injuries.

Faced with Ms. Silva's not-so-shocking revelation, Ashleymadison.etc is crying foul, contending that it's "100 per cent authentic" and the company "won't give in to extortion." It also sent Business Insider pics of Doriana, taken from her Facebook page, riding a jet ski and playing the bongos, all taken since she retired in alleged pain from writing fake profiles.

You have to wonder about someone who sues her employer for damage to her wrists, then turns around and posts photos of herself engaging in activities that require healthy wrists. Obviously, all that fake profile damaged more than her wrists. It spread to her brain.

There's a lesson in all of this. In fact, there's probably more than one. Let's try to sort them out.

For example, it's possible to make $100 million out of nothing. (Oh, and Noel Biderman is happily married and 100 per cent faithful to his wife. Do as I say…)

Or if that profile "WillingToBeWhateverYouWantMeToBe365" sounds too good to be true, it is.

Or Doriana? Why didn't you listen to your lawyer when he told you not to go on Facebook with the bongos?

Or you still don't understand that the Internet is hazardous to your health, and not just your wrists? Tried bird watching?

Or how about: It's still the same old story, the fundamental things apply: Baloney's still baloney, as time goes by.

ZOOM

Up in smoke, so no smoking up

AHMAD MASSOUD/REX

Seized Afghan narcotics burned

More than 20 tonnes of drugs and thousands of bottles of alcohol were burned by Afghan authorities in their fight against the narcotics trade amid a fresh surge in opium cultivation.

Government officials, ambassadors and military commanders gathered on a mountainside outside Kabul to burn the drugs, which were seized from smugglers in recent months. METRO

Narcotics burned

400 kg of heroin

1,200 kg of morphine

2,000 kg of opium

10,000 kg of hashish

Afghan opium

- Afghanistan produces more than 90 per cent of the world's opium, the key ingredient of heroin.
- One kilo of dry opium sells at $160 to $200. In contrast, a kilo of wheat pays only 41 cents.
- Since 2001, the U.S. has spent $6.3 billion to curb the Afghan opium industry.

Government's view

"This event shows our increased capabilities fighting drugs."

Baz Mohammad Ahmadi, Afghan deputy interior minister for counter-narcotic programs

Ahmadi said the drugs were seized over the past 10 months in and around Kabul.

Mohammad Ibrahim Azhar, the deputy counter-narcotics minister, said that opium cultivation had increased this year, but refused to provide details to reporters before the official launch of the upcoming 2013 drugs report.

Clickbait

HANNAH ZITNER
hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

From stop motion to time lapse to hyper lapse, there's all sorts of fancy ways to have fun with photos and bring your stills to life. It used to take thousands of dollars of gear, hours of editing and the patience of a saint to pull off those sorts of photographic feats. But the creative folks over at Teehan+Lax labs are bringing hyper lapse to the people. Using Google Street View you can instantly create hyper lapses of just about anywhere the Google cars have travelled. Once you're done mapping your own hometown, take a look at some world class cities.

MARK BIRKLE/FLICKR

Berlin hyper-lapse:

Credited as the vanguard of the hyper lapse scene, Shahab Gabriel Behzumi's hyper lapse of Berlin is said to have popularized the technique.

Welcome to London:

This hyper lapse film made by Mattia Bicchi Photography shows London's skyline from Canary Wharf to Tower Bridge over a period of three years.

Paris 2013:

Filmed in April, this hyper lapse takes you through the streets of Paris from day to night.

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Metro's Jessica Napier says it's immature to stalk exes on Facebook and watch Pretty Little Liars. What do you think is inappropriate for a late-20-something?

@FraserAust: Excessive sleeping around, and at the same time trying to shame guys into marrying.

@Canucklehead_ca: Try to stay clear of crack pipes. (Drunken stupor or not.)

@BuckyHermit: Or Twitter. Ahem.

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

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The familiar tale of friends and frenemies intertwined

New movie. The Best Man Holiday follows a traditional formula of rivalries and rekindled romances that are all wrapped up in a reunion

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

The Best Man Holiday opens this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

The Return of the Secaucus Seven sees a group of college friends come together 10 years after they were arrested on the way to a 1970 peace protest in Washington D.C.

In the 1979 film they reminisce about the good old days, flirt and establish the basic theme of all reunion movies: "What's a little reunion without a little drama?"

This weekend Terrence Howard, Sanaa Lathan, Taye Diggs and Morris Chestnut are part of a core group of college friends who put that theory to the test in The Best Man Holiday. As IMDB says, expect "long-forgotten rivalries and romances to be ignited."

The idea of seeing old friends and frenemies after a long break offers loads of opportunities for drama and comedy.

Romy and Michele's High School Reunion played their high school 10th anniversary get together for laughs. The pair of friends big up their post Grade 12 adventures in an effort to intimidate their old friends.

"Well, I thought the whole point of going to the reunion was to impress people," says Michele (Lisa Kudrow). "I mean, how am I gonna impress anybody by selling banlon smocks at Bargain Mart."

National Lampoon's Class Reunion takes a different comedic approach to the subject.

Mixing murder with nostalgia, it's the story of Walter Baylor (Blackie Dammett, father of the Red Hot Chili Peppers' singer Anthony Kiedis), an unhinged nerd seeking revenge during his 10th high school reunion as payback for a mean prank played on him during senior year.

"One more move and she gets a hole where she doesn't need one," says Walter.

Grosse Pointe Blank takes a more wistful approach to post school socials. John Cusack plays a mysterious graduate who has a life changing epiphany 10 years after graduation.

"You know," he says, "when you started getting invited to your 10-year high school reunion, time is catching up."

Complicating matters is his job. He's a hit man.

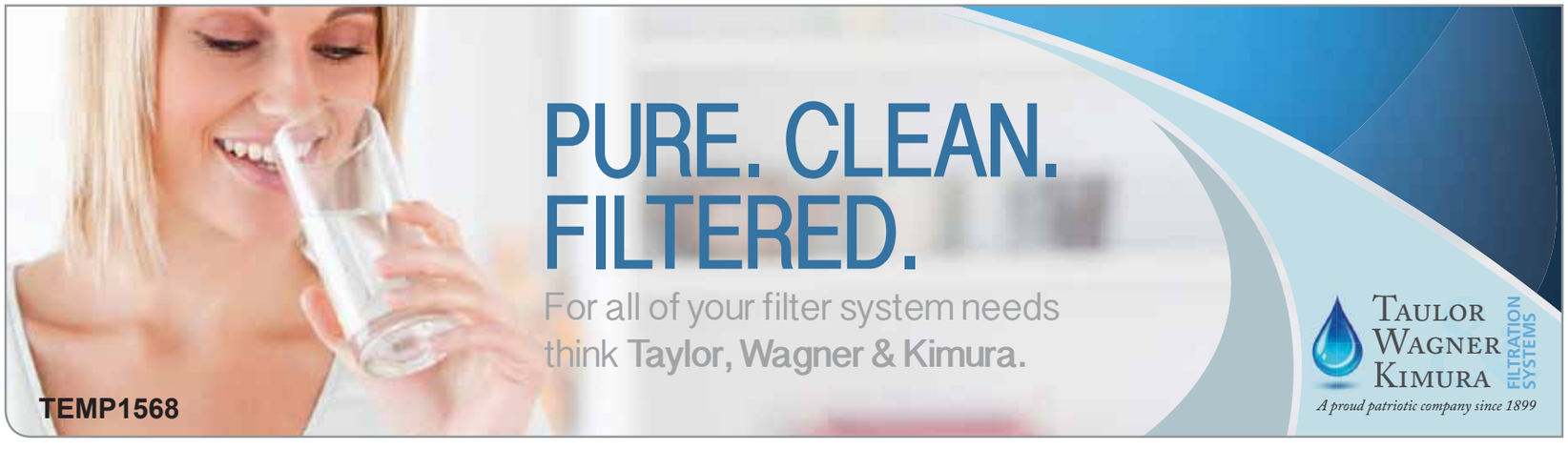
"What am I gonna say? 'I killed the president of Paraguay with a fork. How've you been?'"

He's hired to bump off the father of his high school girlfriend for whom he still has feelings.

One more

More somber is Young Adult, a Charlize Theron dramedy about Mavis Grey (Theron), a ghostwriter of novels for teens who accepts an invite for a baby shower from her high school ex-boyfriend, hoping that he will fall back in love with her during their reunion.

- **Quote on Young Adult.** "Sometimes in order to heal," Charlize Theron says, "A few people have to get hurt."



Breaking down Artpop's inspiration

Lady Gaga's Artpop is out now — here's a look at the influences behind four big songs. METRO

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Gaga's Artpop almost delivers

Music. New release is a fine dance-pop album, but it falls short of the Gaga-size expectations

PAT HEALY
Metro World News

The expectations for Artpop, Lady Gaga's first full album of new material in two years, were almost as high as the singer recently admitted to being. (She told radio host Elvis Duran earlier this week that during a period of "pot addiction" she was smoking 15 to 20 joints per day).

It may be because in 2013, the way to release an album is to drop it on fans with very little warning. Where some of 2013's best albums, like Yeezus or Reflektor, came with scarce and cryptic details leading up to the release, Gaga surprisingly went the traditional route, leaking major spoilers to her little monsters almost every step of the way.

That said, Artpop almost delivers. Almost. On its own it's a fine dance-pop album, but this is Gaga we're talking about and there are expectations.

She begins singing in a spooky voice against a spastic acoustic guitar and a twangy electric guitar. The first words we hear her sing on this first song, Aura, are, "I killed my former and left her in the trunk off Highway 10."

There are howls in the background and the guitar and voice seem to drift in and out of various states of consciousness before the dancey synth drums that define much of Gaga's work kick in.

This is such a great, strong opening that it almost seems like Gaga is finally ready to deliver musically on the weirdness she presents visually. She killed her former? So the dance diva is gone and she's reinvented herself? Awesome! This could be really interesting!

But then the song breaks into a "Do you wanna see me naked, lover" refrain that basically ruins everything she had already established. She didn't kill her former. She just kept her former silent for the first 20 seconds of the song.

Towards the end of that song, a robotic voice recites "Dance, sex, Artpop, tech" and that's basically the chemical breakdown of this album. And

Lady Gaga, shown here in a file photo, chose to leak major spoilers along the route to releasing Artpop. Below, the CD cover image released by Interscope Records. GETTY IMAGES

if you take the album at that level, it works great. It's an arty pop album that features songs about sex that you're supposed to dance to.

However, the most effecting moment comes toward the end of the album and it doesn't include any of these tenets. The song Dope will likely be a fourth single from the album this spring and have a really powerful video. Her voice has never sounded so honest and raw, and this deserves to be a sleeper hit.

"I need you more than dope," she sings against fuzzy synth bass and ballady chords that middle schoolers are probably already asking their piano teachers to teach them.

At their best, the songs on Artpop are banging dance numbers with skewering commentary and funny wordplay (Swine and G.U.Y.), but at their worst some of these songs feel like they should have Cher singing them on a boat or be playing in a strip club scene in a Beverly Hills Cop movie (Sexxx Dreams and Mary Jane Holland).

Criticisms aside, all of these songs really lend themselves to live performance. The lyrics are extremely quotable and the beats are extremely fist-pumpable. To say nothing of how cool the album cover will look as a concert T-shirt.

And as Gaga clearly states in one of the album's first singles, she lives for the applause. Maybe that's why she leaked Artpop a little bit at a time; she couldn't stand the silence of a sneak attack.

VISION FOR CHANGE

LAI CHU SEES POTENTIAL IN YMCA'S BRIDLETOWNE PROJECT IN SCARBOROUGH

CONTRIBUTED

At the corner of Warden and Finch avenue, in Scarborough's Bridletowne neighbourhood, most people see an abandoned high school and a gaping field. All Lai Chu sees is potential.

Home to the now-defunct Timothy Eaton Business and Technical Institute, the land is the future site of a 100,000-square-foot community hub that will include a YMCA, United Way and an extension of the Scarborough Hospital. It is one of five new YMCA centres approved for development in the Greater Toronto Area as part of a $250-million expansion.

"This whole project is very exciting," says Chu, a longtime resident who has supported the development since its conception.

"It shows that even institutions can work together to provide for the needs of the community."

In Bridletowne, the needs of the community are as varied as its inhabitants. Four-bedroom, single-family homes sit blocks away from Ontario housing. The two primary demographic groups are new immigrants and seniors, who, like Chu, have lived in the community for decades.

"We're placing our resources in one spot to make it easier for both groups," says Toronto deputy mayor Norm Kelly.

Challenges in the area, deemed underserved by the City of Toronto, include a lack of hospital access, chronic disease, poverty, settlement issues and youth violence.

And with more than 50 per cent of Bridletowne residents identifying as inactive, the YMCA's presence couldn't come at a better time. Its roster of programs will include health and fitness classes, aquatics, camp programs and childcare.

"The complex is going to improve the quality of life in the neighbourhood," Kelly says.

The site will also serve as a meeting place for area children and young adults, of which there are more than 52,000, according to a report by Environics.

"They can benefit from a place to get healthy, learn new skills, connect with peers and mentors and improve their overall mental and physical health," says Anne-Louise Blaikie, the GTA YMCA's general manager of community development.

Kelly says the feedback from the community has been positive.

"They're delighted," he says. "The Y is a high-quality provider of recreational services and they're excited about that."

Construction on the new centre is still a few years away.

– Manisha Krishnan

UPDATE ON YMCA FACILITIES

VANAULEY

The Vanauley Street YMCA offers supportive programs and services for at-risk youth. Rezoning has been approved, which will allow the Y to move its current emergency shelter, YMCA House, into the Vanauley Street YMCA. The targeted completion date is spring 2014.

COOPER KOO FAMILY YMCA (CHERRY STREET)

In partnership with Waterfront Toronto, Infrastructure Ontario and the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion, the Pan Am Athletes' Village will include a modern 82,000-square-foot facility for use during the games, after which it will be converted into the new Cooper Koo YMCA. It is scheduled to open in summer 2016.

BRIDLETOWNE

The new Bridletowne Circle YMCA will include a 40,000- to 60,000-square-foot YMCA, as well as an additional 20,000-square-foot United Way and community agencies. The targeted opening is fall 2018.

KINGSTON ROAD

The existing facility is too small for purpose. The Y is working with a developer on plans to demolish the existing building and construct a 35,000- to 47,000-square-foot YMCA facility on the first and second floors. The proceeds of the sale of air rights will partially fund the project. The targeted opening is spring 2017.

KIPLING

The proposed 60,000-square-foot YMCA centre of community would provide supportive programming and services to more than 8,100 people and help the community get healthy and active. Negotiations continue with Build Toronto.

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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

CONTRIBUTED

KRYSTAL KOO

The YMCA first became part of Krystal Koo's life when she was 14, hanging out with friends and looking for a cure to teenage boredom.

But when she moved away from Scarborough, the relationship went on a hiatus, until, almost 15 years later, a professional opportunity brought Koo to the Y once again.

"My company started bidding on building the Pan Am Athlete's Village and we won," says Koo, 30, a Toronto philanthropist and the director of sales and marketing for DREAM Unlimited Corp., a residential and commercial real estate group. "Part of that mandate was to build the new 82,000-square-foot YMCA on Cherry Street."

The project soon became not only professional, but personal for Koo.

"My husband (Michael Cooper, president and CEO of DREAM) and I, we were really passionate about building this community and it was something we were really proud of. We decided to meet with the YMCA and see how we could give back even more."

The husband and wife team found a way — a big way — to do just that; they donated $2 million towards the new YMCA Centre of Community their company was building.

– Jaclyn Tersigni

CONTRIBUTED

TIM PENNER

Tim Penner hadn't had any interaction with the YMCA for decades when an acquaintance approached him with a proposition that would eventually bring him to the heart of the organization in Toronto.

"I had been involved with the Y as a teen, but then I lapsed for many years as I focused on my career," says Penner, 57. "About five years ago I was approached by the person who was then chair of the board. He asked me if I had some time to join the board at the YMCA."

Today, Penner is the chair of the board of directors for the YMCA of Greater Toronto. It's a role that requires vision, strategy, and leadership, which makes Penner the perfect fit. Now retired, he was previously the president of Procter & Gamble Canada for 10 of his 33 years with the company.

"The YMCA is such a proven success model," Penner says. "What we do really works. It allows people, young people in particular, to find positive role models and to connect with their peers in a constructive way. All we're doing is taking that success model that already exists and we're expanding it to more neighbourhoods, more communities around the GTA."

– Jaclyn Tersigni

CONTRIBUTED

JACQUELINE BOLTON

As the community support co-ordinator for ING Direct Canada, Jacqueline Bolton's task is an interesting one — connect ING and its employees with charitable causes for which to support and work.

"Our community investment plan, Orange in the Community, is all about developing children and youth and helping them to reach their full potential," says Bolton, 31. "We support a variety of different causes across Canada through four different categories — athletics, education, environment and health.

"It's not just about giving over a financial donation to organizations, but really getting involved with them and, as we call it, getting our hands dirty."

Working at YMCA's Camp Cedar Glen has been one such way that Bolton and ING colleagues dirty their hands.

The Cedar Glen Outdoor Centre, in Schomberg, Ont., is open year-round and provides outdoor education, team-building and retreat opportunities for children and youth.

In addition to physical labour, the company has contributed financially.

"We've made several financial donations to them over the course of our time there," Bolton says.

– Jaclyn Tersigni

PLAYING TO LEARN

When Monica Villeneuve dropped off her daughter, Madison, at a new childcare centre, she was more than a little worried. Madison was only three-and-a-half years old, and Monica had recently split from her husband.

Her daughter clammed up and just wouldn't talk to anyone, Villeneuve recalls. Madison kept to herself and wasn't interested in interacting with other kids.

"I bought her a stuffed animal, a dog, and that was her safety blanket," Villeneuve says. "She wouldn't leave home without it."

Fast-forward almost five years and you will see Madison literally skipping down the hallway at the Lynngate YMCA Child Care Centre in Scarborough.

"The director and the teachers were constantly meeting with me, trying to figure out ways to help Madison," Villeneuve says.

Together, they came up with a plan to make her feel safe. Slowly, Madison started to respond. And when she left her stuffed dog at home and wanted to go to school on weekends, Villeneuve knew her daughter was in the right place.

And that's important, says Natasha Rajaratnam, the director of child and family development at the centre.

"The kids are treated respectfully, and they learn to socialize and co-operate with others at a very young age," she says.

How does it work? The YMCA Playing to Learn is a curriculum (for children up to age six) being implemented at all YMCA childcare centres across Canada.

"The central concept is the importance of play, as play is the way children learn," says Lorrie Huggins, co-author of the curriculum.

The model ensures there is an environment that sets the stage for creative play, and provides an understanding of how play provides the foundation for learning to read and write, and for learning math, science and technology. *– Donna Paris*

YMCA TEEN NIGHTS FILLS ENTERTAINMENT GAP

What's a kid to do on a Saturday night? If you are Nuha Habay, you head down to the local YMCA with a few of your friends for Teen Nights.

"It was such a great thing," Habay says. "It kept me out of trouble and kept me focused on things that could really make a difference in my future."

When you are 15, you are too old to play at home, but too young for entertainment geared toward adults. Experts agree there is a lack of physical activity and access to public space for teens.

There is an opportunity to fill a gap, and the YMCA Teen Nights does just that, offering the free program to all 13- to 18-year olds. The aim is to get kids off the couch and give them a safe, welcoming place to go. Teen Nights opens its doors every Saturday from 8 to 11 p.m., providing a place for kids to play basketball (a favourite), volleyball and soccer, listen to speakers, or just socialize with their friends.

What started as a pilot project at a few west-end centres in 2011, has expanded to eight other YMCA centres in the GTA. Today, almost 13,000 teens are registered for Teen Nights across the GTA, and the number of participants has quadrupled in just one year.

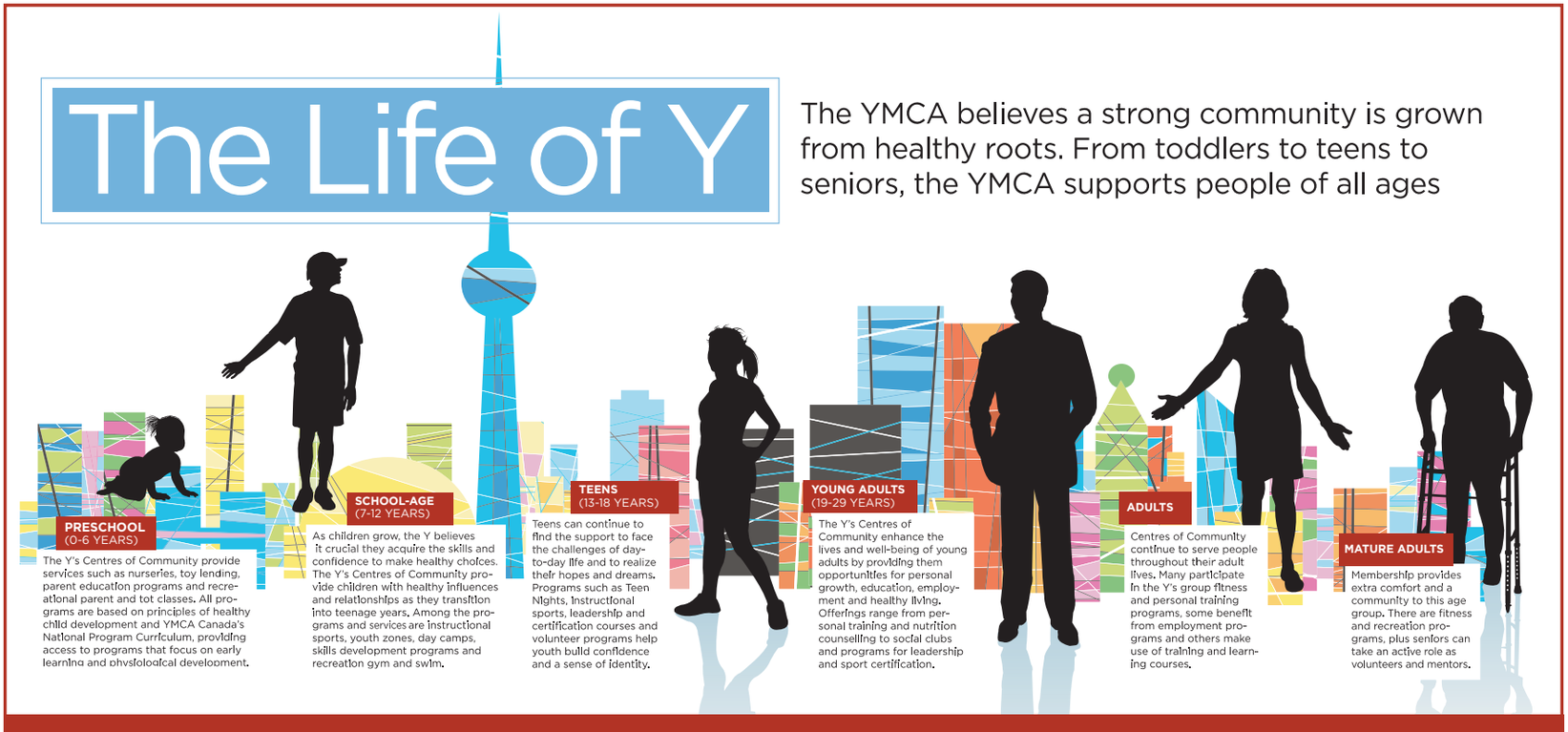
Michael Tewodros, 18, left, Cori Browne, 17, Zhoneesa (Neesa) McRae-McNicholls, 16, and Melkias (Mickey) Abraham-Eskias, 17.

CONTRIBUTED

"It's a welcoming and inclusive space, and it's all about word-of-mouth," says Katie Lowe, the program manager at the Central YMCA of Greater Toronto at 20 Grosvenor St. "There were a few teens who started coming to begin with, and they invited their friends and they invited their friends and so on."

When Neesa McRae-McNicholls, 16, wanted to do some volunteer work, she was drawn to the program, run by youth for youth. "I'm pretty social and outgoing," says McRae-McNicholls, who is now a council member. "That's what you need, because you want to make everyone feel comfortable. We're dealing with a lot of different people, so you also have to be respectful and open-minded."

– Donna Paris


The Life of Y
The YMCA believes a strong community is grown from healthy roots. From toddlers to teens to seniors, the YMCA supports people of all ages
PRESCHOOL (0-6 YEARS)
The Y's Centres of Community provide services such as nurseries, toy lending, parent education programs and recreational parent and tot classes. All programs are based on principles of healthy child development and YMCA Canada's National Program Curriculum, providing access to programs that focus on early learning and physiological development.
SCHOOL-AGE (7-12 YEARS)
As children grow, the Y believes it crucial they acquire the skills and confidence to make healthy choices. The Y's Centres of Community provide children with healthy influences and relationships as they transition into teenage years. Among the programs and services are instructional sports, youth zones, day camps, skills development programs and recreation gym and swim.
TEENS (13-18 YEARS)
Teens can continue to find the support to face the challenges of day-to-day life and to realize their hopes and dreams. Programs such as Teen Nights, instructional sports, leadership and certification courses and volunteer programs help youth build confidence and a sense of identity.
YOUNG ADULTS (19-29 YEARS)
The Y's Centres of Community enhance the lives and well-being of young adults by providing them opportunities for personal growth, education, employment and healthy living. Offerings range from personal training and nutrition counselling to social clubs and programs for leadership and sport certification.
ADULTS
Centres of Community continue to serve people throughout their adult lives. Many participate in the Y's group fitness and personal training programs, some benefit from employment programs and others make use of training and learning courses.
MATURE ADULTS
Membership provides extra comfort and a community to this age group. There are fitness and recreation programs, plus seniors can take an active role as volunteers and mentors.

Write, sing, repeat — it's the Macy Gray way

Looking back. The singer's new tour takes on her old material, which "still resonate to the present," she says

MARA LITTMAN
Metro World News

At the turn of the century, Macy Gray burst onto the music scene, winning multiple Grammy and MTV awards for her 1999 album, On How Life Is.

Audiences fell for her signature raspy voice and unique blend of soul, rock, disco and hip-hop. Her sound was both new and retro.

Gray is still doing this same two-step of one foot in the future and one pointing to the past with her current tour, which takes listeners through the full On How Life Is album. She is adamant that the tour is a bigger step forward than it is a step back, though.

"I'm not a look-back person. I rarely do that. It still means a lot to me, and what's happening in my life now," she says of the album. "When I'm up there (the songs) still resonate to the present. I didn't write them to be that way, but I think with simple life stuff, you'll have it years from now. You're still dealing with love, your spirit and yourself, forever."

Macy's motto

"I'm not a look-back person. I rarely do that. It still means a lot to me, and what's happening in my life now."

Macy Gray
Talking about how she approaches her life after 14 years in the music industry

In the 14 years since her initial fame, Gray has raised three children, appeared in a number of films and produced seven studio albums. Life remains her biggest commercial success.

The fact that she's performing these songs at venues that are the same size as the ones she played when she was first starting out doesn't seem to faze her.

"You learn a lot playing clubs and having people right in your face," she says.

"But my mind and my heart are always on the same planet. That doesn't change for me. The atmosphere, the vibe and how loud the crowd is, (that's) always different."

Macy Gray is slowly making her way back into the spotlight with her new tour. GETTY IMAGES

Play with their hearts and just be still

New music. The Seattle band has risen from relative obscurity to being invited on tour with the famed Dave Matthews Band

ALEXANDRA CAVALLO
Metro World News

If the sound that defined Seattle folkies The Head and the Heart's eponymous debut album can be described as grassroots, the unlikely story of the success that followed is even more so.

The six-piece band of multi-instrumentalists self-recorded and released the album, distributing it at local rock clubs and record stores, and relying on word of mouth to generate hype. And, somewhat remarkably, it worked.

The Head and the Heart went from playing the Seattle club circuit to opening for Vampire Weekend and being tapped by Dave Matthews to join him on tour in what seems like record time.

The Head and the Heart have to be seen on stage to be believed. GETTY IMAGES

"That was insane," says vocalist/guitarist Josiah Johnson. "But we didn't really have time to step back together and be like, 'It's all happening, guys.' You kind of just put your head down and keep going and going and going. (But) at some points, when we did have breaks, you sit back and say, 'Man, I didn't expect this much.'"

They didn't expect much of anything, according to Johnson.

"I don't really consider the last time like recording an album," he says. "We were just kind of getting things down as quick as possible and kind of just creating something that we could burn and give to venues. It wasn't this, 'I have a big picture of this album' thing."

In fact, he attributes a large part of the sound on their freshman effort — an organic, delicately melancholy marriage of stripped down strings and lovely, unadorned vocals — simply to having to make do with what they had.

"It's not really what we set out to write. That's not the only type of band that we are," he says when asked if he ever worries about the band's direction, once the current wave of popularity of indie-folk recedes and another genre inevitably takes its place.

"One of the things that was really exciting about recording (their new album, Let's Be Still) is when you listen to this album it's not all reliant upon the stamping and clapping and the 'hey-ing,' because that's not what we set out to only be. The reason you might hear that on the first album is because we didn't have the time to sit in the studio. We only had our acoustic guitars and limited resources.

"I love that album, but that's not the only kind of music that we listen to, and I think this band has a lot of directions it can go in."

One of those new directions — and the fruits of their access to more resources, since signing with Sub Pop in 2010 — is evident on Let's Be Still, which is marked by a considerably slicker, more polished sound. This time around, they've had time to put thought — a lot of it — into what was indeed a "big picture of an album thing."

"We recorded it at a studio that we recorded some stuff for the first record at," says Johnson.

"Except, for the first record we just did like a big session in a room with a piano in three days and then recorded everything else in a guy's living room. This time we were there for the better part of three and half or four months."

Julia Roberts

Julia's not gonna read your #hate

Don't expect Julia Roberts to join Twitter anytime soon. "It's kind of like cotton candy," she says of social media in an interview with Marie Claire. "It looks so appealing and you just can't resist getting in there, and then you just end up with sticky fingers and it lasted an instant." Actually, Roberts seems to stay away from the Internet in general as much as possible, making a point of not Googling herself or reading comments on articles about her. "I have too much potential for collapse. There's an anonymity that makes people feel safe to participate in hatefulness," she explains. "I like a good old-fashioned fistfight if people are pissed off at each other."

The Word

Stickers? Suckers? A tablecloth run amok? Fashion folks try to decode Jennifer's dress

PAT HEALY
Metro World News

Look. I am solidly in the Jennifer Lawrence Can Do No Wrong camp. She could wear a coonskin cap and shoes made out of coconut husks and I'd be like, "Brava!" But the critics don't feel the way I do about JLaw — they are after the actress big time about the Christian Dior dress she wore to the U.K. premiere of The Hunger Games: Catching Fire on Monday in London. "It honestly looks like someone crushed a bunch of multi-coloured suckers and stuck them onto the bottom half of this dress," opined one blogger. And in a post titled, Catching Fire Premiere Or A Project Runway Fashion Show (You Make The Call), Dlisted asked, "How can you explain wearing Sandra Lee's best tablecloth (she needs it back for her Glitzy Glamour Christmas tablescape) to a movie premiere?"

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Russ needs to play fair, and Leo can't play at all: Thus sayeth Clooney

George Clooney
ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

George Clooney is still pretty sore about Russell Crowe bashing him in the press back in 2005. "He picked a fight with me. He started it for no reason at all," Clooney tells Esquire magazine. "He put out this thing saying, 'George Clooney, Harrison Ford and Robert De Niro are sellouts.' He really went after me. And so I sent him a note going, 'Dude, the only people who succeed when two famous people are fighting is People magazine. What the f— is wrong with you?'"

The Gravity star also thinks Leonardo DiCaprio should spend more time practising basketball and less time boasting about his skills on the court. "The discrepancy between their game and how they talked about their game made me think of how important it is to have someone in your life to tell you what's what," Clooney says of a pickup game with the Titanic star in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. "I'm not sure if Leo has someone like that."

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Ryan comes clean about being puked on

So that story about Ryan Reynolds having to spend most of a recent flight from New York to New Orleans sans shirt after drunken fellow passenger puked on his cashmere sweater? Totally fake, according to the man himself. "I heard about that," the tells Vulture. "That is utterly made-up. I don't know where that stuff comes from. It's fantastic, it

Ryan Reynolds

sounds like a great story." In fact, Reynolds remembers exactly the last time someone vomited on him. "Someone threw up on me in fifth grade. That was the last time it happened," he says. "Sherry Piper, while we were square dancing. Trafalgar Elementary School."

When Perez moves next door, Gaga's anxiety gets turned up to 11

Lady Gaga's ongoing feud with blogger Perez Hilton shows no sign of cooling, with the singer revealing that his getting an apartment next to hers in New York has made her very, very nervous. "Everyone can hate me from afar, but the second you try to move in next door to me, I know you're getting too close and it's not safe," she tells USA Today. "I have lots of security. I get death threats all the time. Some things bring out the New Yorker in me. If you hate someone and you want to move next door to me, the only thing I can think of is that you're moving in because you want to blow yourself up. There's thousands and millions of apartments in New York. You don't need to move in next door to me."

Remember though, earlier this week Gaga admitted to radio host Elvis Duran that she had been smoking as many as 15 to 20 joints per day. That's like more than all of the stoner roommates you've ever had, put together. Some paranoia is understandable.

Lady Gaga

Justin Timberlake

Justin's thin skin is showing

Justin Timberlake has had a tough autumn. His little-seen film Runner Runner and his album, The 20/20 Experience: 2 of 2, were both panned by critics. Variety even ran a piece titled Why Justin Timberlake Should Stop Acting. For a guy who's been beloved basically his whole career, the sudden change in fortune is bound to be bewildering. "Where did all this vitriol come from? It's mean. And I'm not cut out for it," he told GQ. "The movie didn't do well at the box office, so I should quit? Hold on a second. If I was somebody else, you wouldn't have said that. I have the No. 1 album this week, and I shouldn't have released it? Come on, man. You sound like a dickhead. ... It just shocked me because, like, you're trade magazines. None of your opinions count. And by the way, none of you can do it."

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Canadians and the Silver Tsunami

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5 Fast food meccas in North America

Many devout Catholics and spirited hikers make the popular 500-mile trek in the footsteps of medieval pilgrims from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port in France to Santiago de Compostela, Spain, the final resting place of St James. Fast food icons have inspired equally lengthy quests with their faithful lured by righteous burgers, Japanese hot dogs, and crunchy habit-forming Korean chicken wings.

MIKE DOJC
life@metronews.ca

THECCSDIV/FLICKR

Umami Burger

There's sweet, sour, salty, bitter, and then there's umami. The fifth dimension of taste is a subtle yet savory yummyness known to inspire hour-long lines. This now bicoastal, but still California centric, artisanal burger emporium has a dozen meaty options at each location but you can never go wrong with a standard Umami burger topped with roasted tomato, shiitake mushrooms, caramelized onions and a parmesan crisp.

Where to satisfy the craving: Palo Alto's location has a library theme, drawing bookish decor cues from close by Stanford University. Do some high tech networking in Silicon Valley and then grab a hold of one of Umami's high-concept burgers by its lightly toasted soft Portuguese buns.

MARMAROU/FLICKR

White Castle

Slider nirvana White Castle, the beefy grail at the end of the first Harold & Kumar movie, is a cathedral of aromatic mini-burgers where a group gorge on a 20-burger order isn't anything to bat a lash at. While they have a formidable presence in the Northeast, their steam-grilled stronghold is in the Midwest. The drawbridge was lowered on the first White Castle in Wichita in 1921.

Where to satisfy the craving: Kansas hasn't had any locations for years but there are a ton in Missouri, so hit St. Louis, scope out the gateway arch and treat yourself to at least a half-dozen of the itty-bitty burger beauties.

In-N-Out Burger

Even if you've never had the pleasure of acquainting your taste buds with the burger bliss that has created a food revolution, you're probably familiar with their not-so-secret menu. Additions to the sparse menu board include the 4 X 4 (a quad-decker) and Protein Style (bun-less lettuce wrap).

Where to satisfy the craving: While the chain is spreading eastward, the L.A. area remains In-N-Out central.

Japadog

Spearheading a Japanese-style franks invasion, Vancouver-based Japadogs dresses up all beef dogs, brats and kurobuta (the "kobe beef of pork") with snazzy toppings. Their Terimayo dog, garnished with teriyaki, mayo and seaweed, started the craze.

Where to satisfy the craving: Vansterdam's street carts lit the fuse on this foodie frenzy-starter but their first restaurant location at 530 Robson St. offers a more expansive menu They've also got a Manhattan outpost.

BonChon

Buffalo's stranglehold on the mantle of best chicken wings in the world appears to be slipping as this Busan South Korea export continues to sizzle. They utilize an Asian frying technique that calls for a thinner batter and sub blue cheese for soy-garlic.

Where to satisfy the craving: BonChon's crunchy wing joints have sprung up in Thailand and all over the Philippines but there's also five locations in the New York area and another handful in New Jersey.

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Money-making travel

How to turn your home into a hotel

ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

Websites like couchsurfing.com and airbnb.com are seeing increased use by travellers anxious to save on their accommodation costs by skipping hotels and bunking in with the locals. If you are eager to make some extra money and wouldn't mind having strangers sleeping in your spare room, here's how to get started.

It costs nothing to sign up but ensure you spend time making your listing enticing to potential guests. Keep your title catchy and concise. Upload quality photos of your space — don't use blurry cellphone snaps. The description of your place should include details on local attractions, the neighbourhood and information on public transit. Fill out the house rules section so that your guests can understand what is expected of them before booking. Do they have to arrive before dinner? Is it lights out after midnight? Are pets allowed? Once the booking is confirmed, Airbnb does not allow you to impose any further rules.

It is up to you to decide how much you charge. To get an idea of pricing search for similar listings in your neighbourhood. You can set different prices for nightly, weekly and monthly stays, as well as seasonal pricing. You may want to consider imposing a cleaning fee as part of your costs. Airbnb takes a three per cent fee for each reservation, which they say covers the cost of processing the transaction.

Quick and thorough communication with guests before they arrive is essential. Check out their profiles and reviews on the website to ensure you are comfortable welcoming them to your home. You can always say no, however, make sure you respond one way or another.

Brewers toast new liquor laws

Vancouver. Microbrewers get a boost as they begin to open lounges

Pints at the 33 Acres Brewing Co. tasting lounge in Vancouver. THE CANADIAN PRESS

About once a week, Scott Greff walks a block and a half from where he lives in Vancouver's trendy Main Street district, a large glass growler in hand, to a small brewery nestled between an otherwise unremarkable strip of offices, storage bays and auto shops.

Inside the three-month-old tasting room at 33 Acres Brewing Co., Greff can fill up his growler with about two litres of any of the microbrewery's three different varieties (his favourite is 33 Acres of Life, a hybrid between a lager and ale). If he isn't in a hurry, he can grab a glass of beer to stay, like he did on this recent fall evening.

Even on a weeknight, the brewery is teeming with people, either saddled up to the bar or huddled around several tables in a sparsely decorated white-coloured tasting room that has an almost rustic cafeteria feel. Outside, a popular food truck sells fish tacos, leaving an aroma of hops and salsa hanging in the air.

There are countless bars and restaurants just a few blocks away, but instead, Greff is here, sipping on a beer that was brewed in a production room on the other side of the taps. "It's a lot more casual," says Greff. "It's between a coffee shop and a pub. ... And I love the idea of a growler ... getting it to go."

33 Acres is one of a growing number of microbreweries and distilleries that have opened up in recent years as Vancouver undergoes something of a craft beer renaissance, with more than a dozen operations either open or expected to open soon, largely sprinkled throughout the rapidly gentrifying industrial areas that skirt the city's downtown core.

And the city's breweries — not to mention craft beer aficionados — are about to receive a boost, thanks to new liquor laws that will allow them to open full-scale lounges, serving more of their own products on site. Up until this year, provincial and municipal liquor laws allowed breweries and distilleries to operate scaled-down tasting rooms that allowed customers to give products a try. They could give away all the free samples they wanted, but could legally only sell each customer a single 12-ounce glass before cutting them off.

This past spring, the B.C. government updated its legislation to allow so-called tasting lounges, effectively lifting the 12-ounce cap. The City of Vancouver, which finalized its updated bylaws in July, says it expects to eventually hand out at least 15 tasting lounge licences to local breweries and distillers.

Josh Michnik, one of the owners of 33 Acres, says there's something special about getting the beer directly from the people who make it.

"I think it's going that way in multiple industries, not just craft brewing, but also local foods and local craft distilleries — local everything," he says.

"If people can get their products made by their neighbour, why wouldn't you?"

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Half a century later, JFK's legacy lives on

Dallas shooting. Memory of the U.S. president's assassination still lingers as city anticipates thousands of visitors for anniversary

KATHY BUCKWORTH
life@metronews.ca

"Pretty much every news camera in the world is going to be focused on Dealey Square on Nov. 22," said our tour guide as he led us into the lobby of the most visited tourist attraction in Dallas, The Sixth Floor Museum (jfk.org). Located on the corner of Elm and Houston streets, the former Texas School Book Depository is infamous because of one window — the window on the sixth floor where Lee Harvey Oswald allegedly shot John F. Kennedy, the president of the United States, in 1963.

The audio tour is narrated by a reporter who was at the scene, and guides visitors through photos, videos and displays of unique items such as Jim Leavelle's suit and the handcuffs this Dallas police officer was wearing, joined to Oswald when nightclub owner Jack Ruby shot him, making this, in our guide's words "the most famous murder mystery in the world." All narration is carefully scripted, by real and audio guides, to never condemn Oswald (who never went to trial), hoping that "visitors will draw their own conclusions."

Approximately 350,000 visitors pass through the museum each year, although due to the 50th anniversary, 400,000 are expected in 2013. Visitors come from all over the world, but mostly from other parts of the United States, as well as Mexico, Japan, and Canada (mostly from Quebec).

At 12:30 p.m., on Nov. 22, 2013, only 5,000 people, chosen by lottery, will be allowed into Dealey Square to take part in the ceremony. (There were 25,000 Texans on hand to watch the presidential motorcade.) Each person will have a background check completed prior to receiving full clearance to attend. (Due to the Boston Marathon bombings taking place at the start of this lottery process, security has been heightened.)

Photographs are not allowed inside the museum, where guests get a sense of what the world was like in the early '60s. The tour includes information on the Kennedy family history, the policies which Kennedy implemented to fight segregation, his decisions during The Bay Of Pigs and his commitment to the fledgling space program.

The window from where Oswald allegedly shot Kennedy is contained within a glass walled room, with cardboard boxes from the schoolbook depository in place.

A glance out from adjacent windows gives a remarkably still clear view of the famous "grassy knoll," and the exact spot on the street (marked with red Xs) where Kennedy was shot. The model reconstruction of the scene at Dealey Square used by the FBI is a reminder of the lack of computer simulations available at the time.

Videos of the reporting of the assassination are fascinating, as is Walter Cronkite's assertion that "television came of age" as a result of it, when 99.8 per cent of Americans knew within hours that Kennedy had been killed. This legacy of Dallas represents the city's history, but downtown Dallas has recently added many new tourist attractions that look to its future, as citizens accept that their city will forever be associated with this historic and tragic moment.

Down home in Dallas

- **New digs.** Its roots tied to history, the downtown Dallas Homewood Suites lies in a converted Bank of America building that is perfect for families, and within walking distance of most of the city's main attractions, including The Sixth Floor Museum.

Learn about John F. Kennedy at The Sixth Floor Museum.
PHOTOS: KATHY BUCKWORTH

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Discover America

Salmon with Mango, Black Bean and Corn Salsa evokes a summer breeze

ROSE REISMAN
For more, visit rosereisman.com or follow her on twitter @rosereisman

The combination of black beans and sweet mango is outstanding. I serve this salsa over chicken or other fish and even as a salad dressing. Sautéing the corn adds a barbecued flavour.

1. To make the salsa: In a nonstick skillet sprayed with cooking spray, cook the corn on medium-high heat for 8 minutes or just until the corn is dry and beginning to brown. Place it in a serving dish. Stir in the remaining salsa ingredients.

2. In a nonstick grill pan sprayed with cooking spray, grill the salmon on medium-high heat for 5 minutes per side or just until medium done (10 minutes per inch/2.5 cm of fish thickness). Serve the salsa overtop of the fish. **THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN.**

Ingredients

Salsa
- 1/2 cup corn
- 1/2 cup diced mango
- 1/2 cup canned black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1/4 cup diced red bell peppers
- 1/4 cup diced sweet onions
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro or parsley
- 1 tbsp fresh lime or lemon juice
- 1 tsp liquid honey
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- 1/2 tsp hot pepper sauce

Fish
- 4 skin-on salmon fillets

Salmon with Mango, Black Bean and Corn Salsa

This recipe serves four. MIKE MCCOLL, FROM THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

Drink of the Week

Jamaican Hot Buttered Rum

Cocktail base
- 1 lb brown sugar
- 1/2 lb butter
- Pinch of salt
- 4 oz apple cider
- 1/2 oz fresh extracted ginger juice
- 1/2 tsp nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp allspice

Individual cocktail
- 2 heaping tbsp of cocktail base
- 2 oz Appleton Estate Reserve
- 6 oz (approx) hot water

Blend cocktail base ingredients and bring to a boil before removing from the heat. Then leave to cool and store in refrigerator.

When ready to make a drink, combine 2 tbs of base with rum and hot water.

COURTESY APPLETON ESTATE JAMAICA RUM

Side. Gruyère Roasted Brussels Sprouts with Pepitas and Dates

Dress your roasted Brussels sprouts with Gruyère cheese, pumpkin seeds and dates and enjoy the sweet, cheesy, caramelized deliciousness.

1. Heat the oven to 400 F.

2. Spread the Brussels sprouts on a rimmed baking sheet. Drizzle with the olive oil and toss to coat. Season with salt and pepper.

3. Roast for 30 to 40 minutes, or until tender and well browned. Sprinkle with the shredded cheese and return to the oven for 10 minutes. Transfer to a serving dish and sprinkle with the pumpkin seeds and dates. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Ingredients

- 2 lbs Brussels sprouts, trimmed and halved
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- Salt and ground black pepper
- 1 cup shredded Gruyère cheese
- 1/4 cup pumpkin seeds (also called pepitas), toasted
- 1/2 cup chopped dates

Make and mash ahead of time

One of the most stressful parts of hosting a large dinner party is figuring out how to time everything so all the food arrives at the table piping hot.

Traditional mashed potatoes pose a problem. You can try making them ahead of time, then reheating them at the last minute, but then they tend to taste stale. Theoretically, you can make them from scratch as the clock ticks down, but good luck pulling that rabbit out of a hat while you're simultaneously finishing off your sides.

Here's the solution — cook and mash the potatoes without any seasonings or dairy the day before, then pop them in the refrigerator. When you're ready to serve them, nuke them and add the dairy at the last minute.

Why does this work? Because it's the reheated butter and milk or cream that causes the off flavours. Leave those out until the potatoes are already reheated and you're good to go.

1. Heat the oven to 400 F.

2. Use paring knife to prick potatoes in several places. Place on rimmed baking sheet and bake on oven's middle shelf until knife goes through with no resistance, about 50 minutes. After baked, cut potatoes in half lengthwise and set aside to cool for 5 minutes.

3. Use spoon to scoop out pulp from potato halves and transfer, in batches, to a ricer. Force potatoes through ricer into a microwave-safe bowl. Let cool, cover and refrigerate overnight.

4. Just before serving, microwave potatoes, covered loosely with plastic wrap, 2 minutes. Stir and heat another minute. Repeat procedure until potatoes are hot. Stir in 1 cup of milk, the sour cream, butter, and salt and pepper to taste, then heat for another minute, or until hot. Thin with additional milk if you prefer lighter softer texture. Serve. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/SARA MOULTON, AUTHOR OF SARA MOULTON'S EVERYDAY FAMILY DINNERS.**

Ingredients

- 10 small to medium russet potatoes (about 5 lbs)
- 1 to 1 1/2 cups low-fat milk
- 1 cup reduced-fat sour cream
- 2 tbsp unsalted butter, cut into 8 chunks
- Salt and ground black pepper, to taste

This recipe serves 10. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Do you think you might have Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)?

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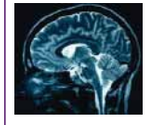

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Tired of making tracks on the temping treadmill?

Take a time out to think. First, adapt to the ever-shifting experience, then find a way to progress your career past that phase

MIKE DJOC
life@metronews.ca

If you apply yourself there are ways to adapt to the temp treadmill and ways to get off it completely. ISTOCK

Jumping from job to job and adjusting to new colleagues and work environments on a regular basis can take an emotional toll. Temp nation's population currently sits a little over the two million mark according to Stats Canada's most recent monthly employment numbers, so odds are if you're on the temping treadmill you're not alone.

We tapped Vancouver-based workplace psychologist Dr. Jennifer Newman's expertise on keeping a healthy mindset, temp networking and breaking the cycle.

Do you think the aging workforce — people who in the past may have worked one job for 20 years — cope differently with the stresses of temping than the emerging workforce?

A lot of people who have had 20 years experience at one job may find it interesting to have variety or they might find it stressful learning new things. On the flip side, a less experienced worker can feel stressed because they are constantly having to learn something new. They're turning into a jack of all trades and a master of none. The other side of that is they are getting a lot of work experience that they wouldn't otherwise have in different industries and in different offices and gaining new skills that way.

What advice do you have for serial temps who feel they're going nowhere and want to break the cycle?

Make a mini-business plan for yourself as if you were your own company. A lot of times it's a lack of focus and not really sitting back long enough and thinking, "OK what do I actually really want?" Then it's (a matter of) breaking it down. What are the stepping stones? What training would I have to get? What other kinds of job experience through my temp agency can I try to get? Who can I network (with)? The nice thing about meeting different people through a temp agency is if you strike a chord you can network with them. You really are getting a great opportunity to meet a lot of different people.

Are certain personality types better suited to cycling through a series of interim jobs than others?

There is a thing called a multiculturalist. I've done some research on people who are really good at going into different cultures and adapting quickly. Some people are good at it, some people aren't. The temp position is in a sense requiring you to go into completely different cultures in a serial fashion as you would if you were doing international relations or development. The main qualities they have are adaptability, flexibility, being a quick study and unflappable. If you could cultivate those qualities and see yourself as a multiculturalist going into different cultures, almost an anthropological mindset, it can help.

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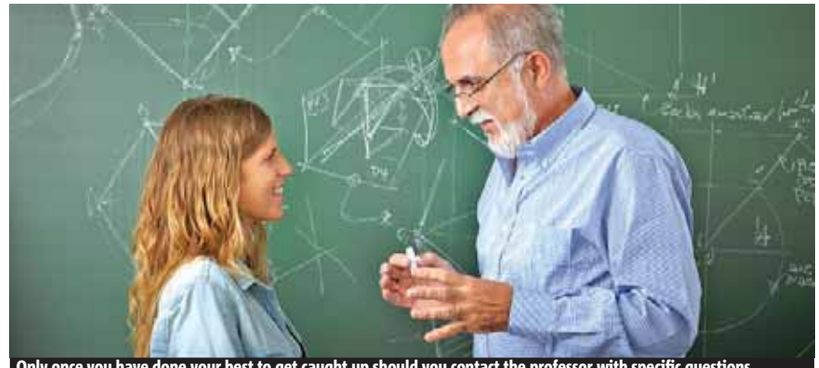
Absence minded: Proffy, I skipped the seminar...



Only once you have done your best to get caught up should you contact the professor with specific questions regarding what you missed. ISTOCK

Unable to attend. How to mind your manners and make up for lost time when you've missed a post-secondary class

LEE SKALLERUP BESSETTE
Metro World News

During any semester, you will inevitably miss a class or two — hopefully not more!

The way you deal with missing your classes will speak to your character as a student, as well as impact your final grade in many of your classes, either directly or indirectly.

Here is my advice to make sure those days you just can't make it don't result in not making the grade.

Before you talk to your professor

Read the syllabus

Remember that document that your professor went over during the first class while you were only half-listening? Yep.

That's where you'll find the professor's policy on missed classes, as well as how it might impact your grade. It will also have an outline of what was going on during the class that you missed.

So, make sure to check the syllabus when your alarm simply didn't go off or you have that trusty case of "food poisoning."

Ask around

After dutifully checking the syllabus, move on to checking whatever learning management system your professor and school use, like Blackboard, Canvas or Moodle.

Often, professors will post the homework or class notes there, to be accessed by all members of your class.

Next, talk to classmates and get the notes from class or discuss what happened while you were out.

Get any paperwork

Often, your reason for missing class will be legitimate, but be sure you can provide proper documentation.

Your professors have seen it before: After a suspicious number of grandparents "die" right around the time when major assignments are due, they know to ask for documents to support why you missed class.

This means anything from an official notice from the university excusing your absence to a filed police report or insurance claim from a fender-bender that caused your to miss school.

When you talk to your professor

Don't ask "did I miss anything important?"

The short answer here is that of course you missed something important. It might not seem like it, but a typical 15-week, three-hours-per-week course is not a lot of time, and professors design their courses to maximize the learning that can take place.

Don't ask "could you tell me everything that I missed?"

As a student, you missed class, and therefore it is your responsibility to do everything in your power to find out what you missed before asking the professor. Many professors hold class without lectures and prefer to engage in class discussion or in-class work. An email that requires that a professor re-hash the class for you will not endear you to them — and it probably won't happen.

Don't ask "is it okay if I miss class for _____ reason?"

Sometimes, you will know in advance that you will need to miss class — that happens. Asking if you can miss class if you're already going to miss it anyway won't endear you to any professor because it won't make a bit of difference if he or she says no. If you have a legitimate excuse, then it doesn't matter what the professor says. If you do not have a legitimate excuse, asking permission uses up the time and resources of your professor without reason.

Don't overshare

There is no need for a blow-by-blow account of your gallbladder surgery or the intimate details of your family dynamics that are keeping you from attending class. Keep your reasons simple and on a need-to-know basis.

Don't let reasons become excuses

Missing one class because your alarm didn't go off is one thing; missing half a semester for the same reason is entirely different. Unexpected things will always come to pass, but as a student there are things you can control, or rather, there are things that often get out of control. Control the things you can, so that when legitimate reasons for missing a class come up, you are in a position that it won't matter as much.

Reach out to teach

Here's a sample email to send to your professor when you miss a class:

- Dear Professor So-and-So: I am in your [insert class name and time] and I will be missing this [day of the week]'s class on [insert topic here — it will say in the syllabus]. I will have proper documentation from the university that I can show you during the following class OR I understand that this will impact my grade in [insert consequence — again, it will be in the syllabus]. I have already spoken with [name of classmate] about getting his notes, and I will be sure to do the reading/homework as well. I will also come and talk to you during your office hours about any specific questions about the content of the reading or homework. Thank you, [your name]

If you have to miss class, do some pre-planning / ISTOCK

Fair thee well, future employee!

Acing an on-site extravaganza. Career fairs bring an opportunity of discovery and networking. These guidelines will prepare you for a productive day!

JESSICA CRUZ
TalentEgg.ca

Regardless of your industry of choice, chances are there's a career fair that matches your interests.

Attending a career fair can be a good way to complement your online research and networking and there's no harm in showing up when employers are coming to meet individuals just like you.

Where do I find out about these fairs?

On campus: If you're a student, you're in luck! Campus recruiters visit career fairs to hire students like yourself. Check your career centre's website, online calendar or visit their office at the beginning of the term.

Community listings: Community job fairs happen all year. Check city or community event listings online. Keep a lookout for industry or company specific job fairs in your area as well. A quick search can reveal wonders.

Planning ahead

Think about it like a marketing campaign. What's your purpose? What kind of job or company are you looking for? What are you trying to learn? Having a purpose will guide your visit.

The first thing you should look for is an online employer listing. Knowing which companies will attend can determine if a particular fair is worth your time. Some fairs might include an online floor plan, company descriptions or available positions.

Recruiters set up shop at career events in order to reach out to people just like you. Don't be afraid to chat them up. ISTOCK

What do I bring?

Resumés/cover letters: Bring a few copies in a small folder or bag. Your community employment centres and campus career centres can help edit your resumés through appointments or workshops.

References: Keep your references tucked away with your resumé and cover letters. On the spot interviews can happen anytime or company reps might scan your resumé and ask for references.

Notepad/notebook/tablet: Have tools for jotting notes, contact information and helpful details.

Pen: Make sure you have one that works.

Business cards: It's a great way to give out your contact information in quick meeting settings.

What do I wear?

Most career and job fairs have a business casual dress code. You want to make a good impression, but don't overdo it. Contact the organizer or look at past event photos if you aren't sure what the proper dress code is.

Listen

Make sure you put yourself out there, but don't talk more than you listen. The employer might answer questions before you ask them. Other people may ask questions that the representative will answer on the spot. Let other people ask the common questions and save your energy for engaging conversation.

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Step right up!

Ask the right questions and network

- Engage in a conversation and be brief. Be clear about your goals and what you're looking for.
- Ask questions about the positions, requirements and the representative's experiences with the company. If your goals are unclear, that's fine too. Think of the event as an opportunity to gather ideas about your future.

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Curiosity pays at the career booth

May I ask you something? Here are five questions that can help you learn more about a company and even create a connection with a company rep.

SHANNON MANDEL
TalentEgg.ca

When you're attending a career fair, it's a good idea to have some questions to ask company representatives.

Before deciding what you want to ask a company rep, always make sure you have a good reason for asking the question.

Consider this list a starting point, as your individual circumstances will influence many of the questions you'll want to ask.

What's your corporate culture like?
Corporate culture includes workplace clubs, teams and events as well as the work environment itself. Ask the rep what the most popular initiatives are at their company. If these activities sound interesting, you may have identified a promising future career opportunity.

If there's something about a potential employer's workplace environment that you can't accept, you can remove them from your radar and focus on more appropriate options.

What qualities or skills would the ideal candidate for this role possess?
It's often difficult to figure out what a company is looking for in their ideal candidate.

Asking a company rep this question can help you determine if you're a qualified candidate for the role. If you have the relevant skills and experience, you can use this question as an opportunity to mention why you'd be a good candidate.

What career development and advancement opportunities exist at your company?
Finding the right job in your field also means finding the right opportunities to learn and grow.

An employer with a demonstrated commitment to professional development will be eager to help you identify the growth opportunities that match your prospective career path.

Do your company policies accommodate _____ ?
Many career-seekers have personal factors that lead them to prefer a particular type of employment schedule. By finding out if a company will accommodate your preferences or needs, you can determine if it is the right kind of place for you to build a future.

Figure out if there are common workplace accommodations with regards to flex-time, vacations, continuing education or professional development that are of particular interest to you, as well as any accommodations you may require for personal reasons.

Why are you most proud of working for this company?
Company reps are constantly inundated with questions about jobs and company culture, but candidates rarely ask them about their personal relationship with the company.

By turning the conversation around, you'll give the rep a chance to share their personal opinion — and you'll stand out by doing so.

If you have a strong connection with the rep's reply, you can use it as a springboard to further dialogue and rapport with them.

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Flip the focus

"By turning the conversation around, you'll give the rep a chance to share their personal opinion — and you'll stand out by doing so."

The sooner you know about a company's corporate culture, the sooner you can decide if you truly want to work for them, so don't be afraid to ask. ISTOCK

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Argos running back Chad Kackert evades the Tiger-Cats' Evan McCollough on Oct. 4. Kackert is out for the year with a broken ankle. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Kackert suffers another bad break

CFL. Argos running back's injury-filled season comes to an end with broken ankle

If the Toronto Argonauts are going to defend their CFL title, they're going to have to do it without their Grey Cup MVP.

Chad Kackert underwent surgery Tuesday to repair a broken ankle and is done for the year, the final blow in a season full of them for the Argos' explosive running back.

If the Argos can take any measure of comfort into Sunday's East Division final versus the Hamilton Tiger-Cats, it's that they've been in this spot for the better part of the season — having to make do without the player who led them to Grey Cup glory a year ago.

"All injuries are frustrating," Argos head coach Scott Milanovich said after Tuesday's walk-through. "From his perspective it was very disappointing, it was a tough year for him with the injuries and finally felt like he was getting healthy, finally felt like he was getting his chance to get in there and do what he wanted to do all year.

Ticat earns weekly award

Hamilton Tiger-Cats linebacker Simoni Lawrence was named defensive player of the week Tuesday.

- Lawrence had a game-high seven tackles to help Hamilton advance to the East final with a 19-16 overtime win over the Montreal Alouettes.

"Our team is very disappointed for him, but it's football, but you've got to rally, and we've got guys who fortunately have played well."

Milanovich said he will rely on backups Jerious Norwood and Curtis Steele to fill in for Kackert, and — regrettably for Kackert — it won't be the first time. The speedy running back missed 10 of 18 games this season after injuring his knee and shoulder (twice), plus suffering a concussion.

The five-foot-eight, 206-pound Kackert was still Toronto's leading rusher this season, running for 480 yards on 71 carries (6.8-yard average) with three touchdowns. The former New Hampshire star added 23 catches for 184 yards and a TD. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Lightning win first contest without Stamkos

Valtteri Filppula scored the only goal in the shootout to spoil a 44-save performance by Carey Price and give the Tampa Bay Lightning a 2-1 victory over the Montreal Canadiens on Tuesday night.

Ryan Malone scored in regulation time for Tampa Bay, while Daniel Briere was the lone goal scorer for Montreal.

The Lightning were without their leading goal-scorer Steven Stamkos, who broke his right leg after crashing into the net against the Bruins on Monday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

James, Heat blow out Bucks

LeBron James scored 33 points and got the entire fourth quarter off, Michael Beasley scored 19 off the bench and the Miami Heat had little trouble on the way to beating the Milwaukee Bucks 118-95 Tuesday.

The Heat's biggest margin of victory before Tuesday was a 12-point triumph over Chicago on opening night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gary Neal and Brandon Knight of the Bucks defend the Heat's LeBron James. GETTY IMAGES

Gimme 10? NHL GMs mull OT extension at meeting

Lightning GM Steve Yzerman speaks to the media in Toronto Tuesday. MARK BLINCH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

As entertaining as shootouts can be, having them play a meaningful role in playoff races is not something the NHL wants.

So after 40 of the season's first 262 games went to a shootout, the league's general managers discussed at length the possibility of extending overtime Tuesday during their annual meeting following Hockey Hall of Fame induction night. Fighting, hybrid icing and the playoff format also came up.

GMs have been discussing making overtime 10 minutes to cut down on shootouts "to some degree," according to Ken Holland of the Detroit Red Wings, but there isn't a consensus yet on which format to adopt. Holland would prefer five minutes of 4-on-4 followed by five minutes of 3-on-3, while Doug Armstrong of the St. Louis Blues and others want simply 10 minutes of 4-on-4.

"I like the idea of the games being decided prior to the shootout, and if we had to extend 4-on-4 play I would understand that," Armstrong said. "We talked about 4-on-4, then a 3-on-3. I'm not sure about the 3-on-3 yet because I don't see it enough in our regular games in the 60 minutes or in the overtime to see what effect that would have."

No rule changes on overtime or anything else came about, and they weren't expected to. As usual, this get-together was designed to set up the next GMs meeting in March.

"A lot of ideas are discussed, whether it be rule changes or amendments, a lot of different things that get brought to the table here," Tampa Bay Lightning GM Steve Yzerman said. "And then the league, the managers, spend time getting prepared for that March meeting. Today was mostly, I found, just a discussion of guys bringing up ideas, different concepts."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Francona and Hurdle named managers of year

MLB. Tribe skip edges out Farrell of the Red Sox, while Bucs' boss wins in a landslide

Terry Francona of the Cleveland Indians and Clint Hurdle of the Pittsburgh Pirates won the Manager of the Year awards Tuesday after guiding their small-budget teams to charming turnarounds.

Francona edged John Farrell of the World Series champion Boston Red Sox for the American League honour 112 points to 96 in a close vote by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

In his first season with the Indians, Francona directed them to a 24-win improvement and their first playoff berth in six years.

Indians manager Terry Francona celebrates a walk-off win with DH Jason Giambi on Sept. 24.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Hurdle was a runaway winner, selected first on 25 of 30 ballots by the NL panel after taking the Pirates to the playoffs in their first winning season since 1992.

Don Mattingly of the Los Angeles Dodgers came in second. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DeRosa hangs up cleats

Toronto Blue Jays infielder Mark DeRosa is retiring after a 16-year career.

- The 38-year-old veteran finishes his career with a .268 average and 494 runs batted in over 1,241 games with Atlanta, Texas, the Chicago Cubs, Cleveland, St. Louis, San Francisco, Washington and Toronto.

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Tampa Bay	17	12	5	0	54	42	24
Boston	17	11	5	1	48	30	23
Detroit	19	9	5	5	47	51	23
Toronto	17	11	6	0	51	40	22
Montreal	18	9	8	1	48	40	19
Ottawa	18	7	7	4	53	56	18
Florida	19	4	11	4	40	66	12
Buffalo	20	4	15	1	36	63	9

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	17	11	6	0	50	40	22
Washington	19	10	8	1	61	55	21
NY Rangers	18	9	9	0	41	49	18
Carolina	18	7	7	4	34	49	18
New Jersey	18	6	7	5	38	46	17
NY Islanders	19	7	9	3	54	61	17
Philadelphia	17	6	10	1	31	44	13
Columbus	17	6	10	1	44	50	13

Tuesday's results
Winnipeg 3 Detroit 2 (SO)
Philadelphia 5 Ottawa 0
Florida 3 Anaheim 2
Carolina 2 Colorado 1
NY Islanders 3 Nashville 1
New Jersey 3 NY Rangers 2
Washington 4 Columbus 3 (OT)
Buffalo 3 Los Angeles 2 (SO)
Tampa Bay at Montreal
Phoenix at St. Louis
San Jose at Calgary
Monday's result
Boston 3 Tampa Bay 0
Wednesday's games — All times Eastern
Toronto at Minnesota, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Edmonton, 10 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Colorado	17	14	3	0	55	30	28
Chicago	18	12	2	4	66	49	28
St. Louis	15	11	2	2	52	34	24
Minnesota	18	10	4	4	48	40	24
Winnipeg	20	9	9	2	53	57	20
Dallas	17	8	7	2	46	52	18
Nashville	18	8	8	2	38	57	18

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Anaheim	20	15	4	1	68	48	31
Phoenix	18	12	4	2	60	56	26
San Jose	17	10	2	5	63	41	25
Vancouver	20	11	7	2	54	54	24
Los Angeles	18	11	6	1	52	44	23
Calgary	17	6	9	2	47	61	14
Edmonton	19	4	13	2	48	75	10

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Thursday's games
Los Angeles at NY Islanders, 7 p.m.
Columbus at Boston, 7 p.m.
Anaheim at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Colorado at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Calgary, 9 p.m.
San Jose at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Friday's games
Anaheim at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Montreal at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Washington at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Florida at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.

MLS PLAYOFFS

CONFERENCE FINALS

(2 games, total goals)
Saturday, Nov. 23 — All times Eastern
Houston at Kansas City, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 24
Salt Lake at Portland, 9 p.m.

CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday, Dec. 7
East champion vs. West champion, 4 p.m.

CFL PLAYOFFS

DIVISION FINALS

Sunday's games — All times Eastern
Hamilton vs. Toronto, 1 p.m.
Saskatchewan vs. Calgary, 4:30 p.m.

GREY CUP

At Regina, Saskatchewan
Sunday, Nov. 24
East champion vs. West champion, 6 p.m.

NFL

WEEK 10
Monday's result
Tampa Bay 22 Miami 19
Thursday's game — All times Eastern
Indianapolis at Tennessee, 8:25 p.m.
Sunday's games
Baltimore at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Arizona at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Oakland at Houston, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Washington at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
San Diego at Miami, 4:05 p.m.
San Francisco at New Orleans, 4:25 p.m.
Green Bay at N.Y. Giants, 4:25 p.m.
Minnesota at Seattle, 4:25 p.m.
Kansas City at Denver, 8:30 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 18
New England at Carolina, 8:40 p.m.

NBA

Tuesday's results
Miami 118 Milwaukee 95
Washington at Dallas
Detroit at Golden State
New Orleans at L.A. Lakers
Monday's results
San Antonio 109 Philadelphia 85
Indiana 95 Memphis 79
Atlanta 103 Charlotte 94
Boston 120 Orlando 105
Houston 110 Toronto 104 (2OT)
Chicago 96 Cleveland 81
Denver 100 Utah 81
Portland 109 Detroit 103
L.A. Clippers 109 Minnesota 107
Wednesday's games — All times Eastern
Houston at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Charlotte at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Cleveland at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
New York at Atlanta, 8 p.m.
Washington at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Denver, 9 p.m.
New Orleans at Utah, 9 p.m.
Brooklyn at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Phoenix at Portland, 10 p.m.
Oklahoma City at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

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- AIR CONDITIONING
- POWER LOCKS WITH REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY
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2014 Toyota Corolla

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

Review. It's looking like an early Christmas for Toyota fans

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

For a small car, the Corolla has some big numbers to tout. Like the fact that in 47 years, Toyota has sold more than 40 million of them and currently operates 16 factories worldwide that supply Corollas to 154 countries.

The all-new 11th-generation North American sedan comes on strong with style — especially from the windshield forward — that its broad base of customers are not used to seeing. Nothing too radical, mind you, but just enough design drama to cause some politely muffled oohs and ahs (see above right).

The distance between the front and rear wheels has increased by a whopping 10 centimetres, rivalling the current segment space champ Dodge Dart. Note that both the Dart and Corolla are virtually dead-heat-even for interior volume and could almost pass for mid-sizers. The added space between the wheels improves front and rear legroom slightly, which is welcome in any small car. Interior styling has improved, but in a conservative way that differs from the Corolla's more daring competitors. Still, the clearly marked gauges and switches are logically placed and easy to decipher.

It's only when you check under the hood that a sense of déjà vu really kicks in. A 132-horsepower four-cylinder carries over from the previous generation. It's connected to a six-speed manual transmission for the base CE and sporty S models. A four-speed automatic transmission is optional for the L, while a new continuously variable unit (CVT) is optional for the S, but standard on the LE and LE Eco.

To reduce that "rubber-band" slippage sensation that's common to many CVTs (including Toyota's Prius hybrids), engineers dialed in seven artificial shift points. These function automatically to simulate the action of a regular automatic transmission. With the S model, they can be manually controlled using steering-wheel-mounted paddles. Aside from using a more efficient engine with special variable valve timing, the ECO's figures are achieved with the help of underbody panels that improve the car's aerodynamics to reduce highway-speed fuel consumption.

The starting-point Corolla CE, which carries a $17,600 base price, has a split-folding rear seat, power windows and locks plus a basic four-speaker audio system. The LE/LE Eco trims include air conditioning, 16-inch alloy wheels (15-inch steelies are on the CE).

You also get a backup camera, remote keyless entry, heated front seats (power-adjustable for the driver), touch-screen display with voice recognition and Bluetooth wireless connectivity. Opting for the S brings with it a blacked-out grille, 17-inch wheels, heated outside mirrors and additional instrumentation with customizable settings.

A navigation system, power moonroof and push-button start head the list of options, along with a start/stop system that shuts off the engine for short periods, such as at stoplights or in stop-and-go traffic. This, of course, saves fuel.

Despite its generally more athletic appearance, the Corolla is still a sensible people transporter that carries with it a reputation for reliability and quality that's the envy of the industry. You'll need to check elsewhere for a budget-based pocket rocket, but joining the millions of contented Corolla owners around the world will at least put you in solid company.

Compare

1 Honda Civic
Base price: $17,000

2 Dodge Dart
Base price: $17,700

2014 Toyota Corolla

- **Type.** Four-door, front-wheel-drive compact sedan
- **Engines (hp).** 1.8-litre DOHC I4 (132/140)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed manual and four-speed automatic (depending on model)
- **Base price (incl. destination)** $33,500

Design

The front end is certainly a lot more aggressively defined with its enlarged lower air intake and inset bumper. The side intakes seem a bit oversized, but the total effect is quite appealing. Along with its mostly new shape, the Corolla's more rigid platform supports a body that's a few ticks longer and wider.

5 DRIVE

This Mercedes just gets better with age

Autoknow. Over time, base models nearly always improve. So do you really need anything more than an SLK? Let's find out.

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

There will never be a dull moment in the Mercedes SLK350. BOTH PHOTOS WHEELBASE AND MERCEDES

There's a backlit icon of a simmering coffee cup on the SLK's control panel.

Could it be this particular well-optioned roadster comes with its own coffee maker? Perhaps the symbol flashes intermittently whenever a Starbucks comes into view? At first blush, it's impossible to say, since the owner's manual, a critical tome considering SLK's techno-laden content, was nowhere to be seen.

"They're frequently missing after the cars are returned, so we keep them here in the office," explained a Mercedes-Benz press-fleet overseer.

Fortunately, an experienced Mercedes-Benz brand hand came to the rescue, appropriately enough while parked outside of a Starbucks.

After admiring the SLK from top to bottom, he spied the tiny cup-and-saucer symbol and explained that it denotes "Attention Assist," which is a safety feature that's programmed to sense certain driving behaviours associated with fatigue and issues both visual and audible warnings for the driver to take a break.

The smell of fresh-brewed dark roast wafting out from the air vents could probably work just as well.

Attention Assist is a fine idea, but it's hard to imagine anyone nodding off in what is one of the more exciting M-B models on the market and the best SLK that the German automaker has devised to date.

The SLK has steadily evolved since its 1997-model-year North American debut. The current generation now looks less like an inaccurate representation of its larger SL-class relation and, at least from the front, now resembles its twin. Both cars feature nearly identical upright grilles, headlight pods and extended hoods, along with similar retractable hard-shell roofs. Of course, what they don't even come close to sharing is their respective price tags; the $54,300 base SLK is offered at about one-half the wallet hit of the SL.

Of course the SLK lacks the SL550's 429-horsepower twin-turbo V8. In fact, the base four-cylinder SLK250 comes with a 201-horsepower four-cylinder. This matte-grey SLK350, however, has a 302-horsepower V6 and accompanying seven-speed automatic transmission.

Mercedes-Benz pegs the roadster's zero-to-60-m.p.h. (96 km/h) time at 5.4 seconds, which is only about a second off the pace of the SL. However that time is more than a second quicker than the base SLK250. Nice.

The warp-factor model of the triumvirate is the SLK55 AMG that receives the full aero kit treatment, unique nosepiece and fancier wheels. It also sends its power to the pavement using a 415-horsepower 5.5-litre V8 and earns a 4.5-second zero-to-60-m.p.h. time.

Within the SLK range, though, the 350 has a certain just-right feel. Around town, the V6 operates in a docile fashion, but can quickly flex its muscles when a squirt of passing thrust is summoned, or when attacking a freeway on-ramp. The engine instantly clears its throat and delivers a distinctive and dignified growl, while the seven-speed automatic imperceptibly kicks down into the appropriate gear. The SLK makes the entire process seem so easy, which really enhances driving confidence.

New for 2014, the SLK350 and SLK55 AMG are equipped with stop-start. Whenever the car stops with the brake pedal depressed, the engine shuts off to save fuel. When the accelerator is touched, the engine fires back up.

The best feature of the SLK is the open-air experience. To make a convertible out of a coupe, the trunk lid pivots rearward while the hard tonneau cover flips upward and the two-piece roof stacks into its containment spot, followed by the trunk lid resuming its original position.

The whole lowering/raising sideshow consumes about 20 seconds. The test model was equipped with the available Magic Sky Control, consisting of a glass roof panel that changes to opaque from clear with the flip of a switch.

Also included is constantly adjusting shock-damping control and a faster-acting Direct-Steer system that reduces by 25 per cent the number of lock-to-lock steering wheel turns.

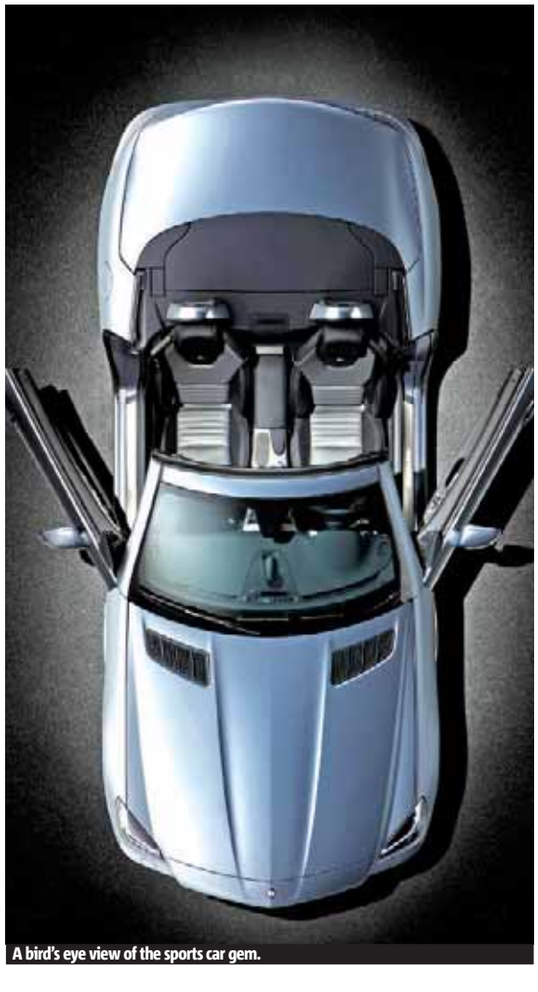
About the only item of concern was the car's matte-finish Designo Glacier Grey colour scheme. The idea of an as-tested $70,000 Mercedes wearing what amounts to a really dull paint job might seem truly bizarre to some people, almost as if the car is in primer and awaiting a real top coat. It also carries a sternly worded missive warning of dire consequences should the finish ever be polished.

The SLK test stretched into a week of mostly sunny skies and light Pacific Ocean-scented breezes on Vancouver Island. In other words, perfect sports-car weather in a part of the world that attracts plenty of them.

And likely not one of their grinning drivers, including one SLK350 pilot in particular, required a cup-and-saucer advisory to keep the adrenaline flowing.

The 350's just-right feel

Within the SLK range, though, the 350 has a certain just-right feel. Around town, the V6 operates in a docile fashion, but can quickly flex its muscles when a squirt of passing thrust is summoned, or when attacking a freeway on-ramp.



A bird's eye view of the sports car gem.

Ford

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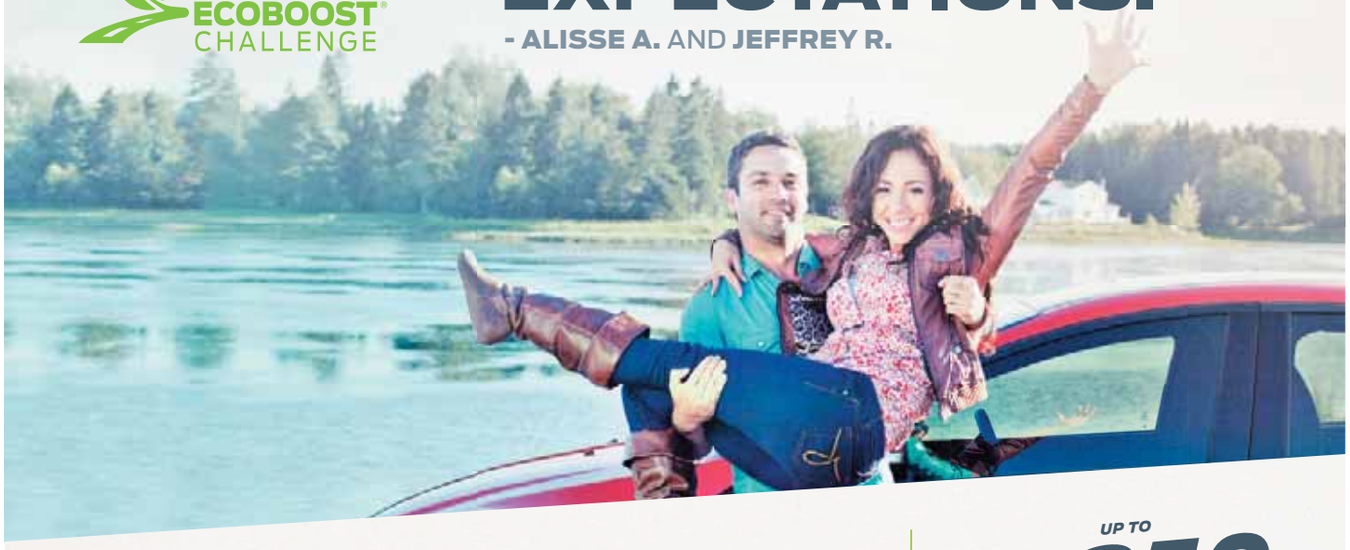

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2014 Fiesta SE model shown

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F-150 Platinum 4x4 model shown

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Example: $25,000 purchase financed at 0% APR for 48/60/72 months, monthly payment is $520.83/$416.66/$347.22; cost of borrowing is $0 or APR of 0% and total to be repaid is $25,000. Down payment on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. †Until December 2, 2013, Purchase a new [2014 Escape S FWD/2014 Fiesta S Hatch]/[2013 Focus S Sedan / 2013 F-150 XLT SuperCrew 4x4/ 2013 F-150 SuperCrew Platinum 4x4 5.0L] for [$24,888/$16,058]/ [$14,498/ $31,858/$46,080] [after Manufacturer Rebate of [$500/$0]/[$3,000 / $9,250/ $9,250] and Winter Safety Package cash alternative of [$750/$0/$0/$0] deducted]. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after total manufacturer rebate has been deducted and after Winter Safety Package cash alternative has been deducted. Offers include freight and air tax but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Delivery Allowances are not combinable with any fleet consumer incentives. *Until December 2, 2013, lease a new 2013 Ford F-150 Super Crew XLT 4x4 for up to 24 months, monthly payment is $324/$172 (the sum of twelve (12) monthly payments divided by 26 periods) gives payee a bi-weekly payment of $149/$79), interest cost of borrowing is $2,263/$495 or APR of 2.49%/0.99% and total to be repaid is $27,188/$14,376. Down payment may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. All purchase finance offers include freight and air tax and PPSA but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Delivery Allowances are not combinable with any fleet consumer incentives. **Until December 2, 2013, receive 2.49% APR purchase financing on new 2014 Escape S FWD models and receive 0.99 % APR purchase financing on new 2014 Fiesta S Hatch for up to 84 months, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: 2014 Escape S FWD/ 2014 Fiesta S Hatch for $24,888/$16,058 (after $0/$250 down payment or equivalent trade-in, $500/$0 Manufacturer Rebate, and $750/$0 Winter Safety Package Cash alternative deducted) purchase financed at 2.49%/0.99% APR for 84 months, monthly payment is $2,263/$495 or APR of 2.49%/0.99% and total to be repaid is $27,188/$14,376. Down payment may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. All purchase finance offers include freight and air tax and PPSA but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Delivery Allowances are not combinable with any fleet consumer incentives. ***Until December 2, 2013, lease a new 2013 Ford F-150 4x4 5.0L V8 6-Speed SST Flex fuel vehicle for personal use for 24 months. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Lease obligation is $11,976, interest cost of leasing is $1,016 or 1.99% APR. Offers include freight, air tax, and PPSA but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. Delivery Allowances are not combinable with any fleet consumer incentives. Offers may end without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details. Model shown is 2013 F-150 4x4 5.0L V8 6-Speed SST. Escape, Fusion, Edge (excluding Sport), Explorer, or Fiesta (excluding S) on or before December 2, 2013. This offer is not applicable to any Fleet (other than small Fleets with an eligible FIN) or Government customers and not combinable with CPA, GPC, CFIP or Daily Rental incentives. Some conditions apply. See Dealer for details. Vehicle handling characteristics, tire load index and speed rating may not be the same as factory supplied all-season tires. Winter tires are meant to be operated during winter conditions and may require a higher cold inflation pressure than all-season tires. Consult your Ford of Canada dealer for details including applicable warranty coverage. ^F-Series is the best-selling pickup truck in Canada for 47 years in a row based on Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association statistical sales report, December 2012. ©2013 Sirius Canada Inc. "SiriusXM", the SiriusXM logo, channel names and logos are trademarks of SiriusXM Radio Inc. and are used under licence. ©2013 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved.

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63485	$29,749	$27,249	2013	Jetta Trendline Hybrid
63611	$32,048	$29,548	2013	Jetta Comfortline Hybrid
63599	$35,898	$33,398	2013	Jetta Highline Hybrid
63788	$19,963	$16,693	2013	Jetta Trendline plus Auto
63830	$27,463	$25,463	2013	Jetta Comfortline TDI Auto
63840	$27,463	$25,463	2013	Jetta Comfortline TDI Auto
33776	$39,798	$34,798	2013	CC automatic
13597	$27,698	$26,698	2013	Beetle TDI Comfortline Auto
13651	$30,648	$29,648	2013	Beetle Comfortline Convertible
73960	$30,253	$2 9,253	2013	Golf Wolfsburg TDI Auto
73850	$27,248	$25,748	2013	Golf Wolfsburg Auto
73851	$27,248	$25,748	2013	Golf Wolfsburg Auto
73854	$27,248	$25,748	2013	Golf Wolfsburg Auto
73821	$34,648	$33,648	2013	GTI Wolfsburg Manual
33340	$33,998	$31,498	2013	Passat TDI Comfortline Auto
33694	$31,398	$28,398	2013	Passat Comfortline Auto
33865	$31,398	$28,398	2013	Passat Comfortline Auto
33496	$38,373	$35,873	2013	Passat Highline TDI Auto
33635	$36,423	$33,923	2013	Passat TDI Highline Auto
33334	$36,073	$33,073	2013	Passat Highline Auto
33656	$34,123	$31,123	2013	Passat Highline Auto
73655	$30,298	$28,298	2013	Golf Wagon Comfortline TDI Auto
73654	$31,073	$29,073	2013	Golf Wagon Comfortline TDI Auto
73867	$30,298	$28,298	2013	Golf Wagon Comfortline TDI Auto
73717	$35,658	$33,658	2013	Golf Wagon Highline TDI Auto
73295	$35,658	$33,658	2013	Golf Wagon Highline TDI Auto
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The finished product is sledge-hammer-proof and on your roof.

The tires arrive to Euroshield in crumb form. BOTH IMAGES EUROSHIELD

Some used tires are lucky. After their vehicle days are over they go to a higher place — up on the roof, as a rubber roofing product from Euroshield.

Euroshield "shakes" and "shingles" are a product line of G.E.M. Inc. of Calgary Company founder, Henry Kamphuis, was bent and determined to make something useful from the alarming and growing number of spent tires forming mini-mountain ranges in the landfills. Because of its large volumes, he figured some kind of building material might be the ticket and hit upon the idea of rubber roofing. Euroshield gets the rubber in crumb form, from Alberta Recycling.

"It's like black sand when we get it," says Brian Eberle, Euroshield's marketing manager, who adds that all the steel and nylon and non-rubber bits used in the manufacturing of the tires have already been weeded out by Alberta Recycling. The company's sole manufacturing plant on the outskirts of Calgary, goes through in excess of 20,000 pounds of the recycled rubber a day.

Other companies use the stuff, but Eberle contends Euroshield is the only one that makes its final product with such a high percentage of the recycled tires — 70 per cent versus the typical 10 per cent found in other products (roofing and otherwise).

How many tires could be re-deployed to one roofing detail? "We tell people that on average, for say a 30-foot by 30-foot roof, they are using anywhere from 250 to 375 tires."

Rubber is obviously a "premium" roofing product. A Euroshield roof would typically cost twice as much or more than an asphalt roof.

But could an asphalt shingle roof withstand the blow of a sledgehammer?

"We actually hold a Class Four Impact Rating. … It means the product is virtually bullet proof when it comes to hail strikes." In the Calgary showroom customers are encouraged to slam down a sledgehammer as hard as they can on a Euroshield shake or slate to get a sense of its strength and repellency.

"Remember, this is a rubber roof. When the hail hits it, the hail literally bounces off."

And for those who have too many images in their minds of cracked and dried out tires lying in the gutters to think a roof made of old tires is going to work, Eberle reminds us that the degradation you see in old tires has come about because it has weakened around the fibres and cords that enabled it to be a tire in the first place. These products are not tires.

"We re-form these pieces into new parts. They aren't going down the highway. There is no metal or fibre in them. And for UV protection, there is carbon black, found naturally in rubber and one of the world's best UV inhibitors. Our products are extremely stable."

The products were also specifically designed to look like, and act like current roofing products so they would be easily installed and embraced by the "regular" roofing guys.

Old tires to premium roof? Not a bad bounce back.

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GT model with Technology Package shown. Certain features available only on 2014 Mazda3 GS and GT models.

Parts Dept.

WHEELBASE MEDIA

A 'cool' collection

If you're a fan of the British Broadcasting Corporation's Top Gear program, you're likely to enjoy any of a number of companion books authored by Matt Master, which is a pseudonym for the Top Gear producers. One of Mr. Master's latest offerings is The Cool 500: The Coolest Cars Ever Made. The book contains Top Gear-style irreverent commentary about the cars they've picked, the people who built them and, in some cases, the drivers who made them famous. The cars are considered so cool that they're described as "sub-zero." The book sells for $30 to $40, depending on whether you're shopping in a bookstore, or online at amazon.com.

Spare in a bottle

A flat tire can occur at any time and can involve digging out your spare and jack from beneath your vehicle's trunk or load floor. A simpler solution is the Super Spare Tire Repair from Paasch Products. The system consists of a bottle containing a special tire sealant, a hose that connects from the bottle to the flat and another transfer hose that attaches to your spare tire, or to any other tire or tires on your vehicle. The result is your puncture is sealed in about two minutes and you should have enough air in all tires to get you to safety. The kit sells for $15, with additional recharged bottles priced at $9. To view the descriptive video and/or purchase this item, go to superspare.co.

TADA

Drive Clean emissions program needs to go

Clean exhausts, dirty money. ISTOCK

THE WHEEL DEAL
Todd Bourgon, Executive Director, Trillium Automobile Dealers Association

Since it was introduced in 1999, the Ontario Drive Clean emissions program has been highly controversial, and a means for the provincial government to generate $30 million in revenue annually from car owners.

Although Drive Clean was designed to identify the most polluting vehicles, since 2004, 90 per cent of all cars and light trucks tested have passed on the first try.

But that was before the new computerized testing procedures that are problematic and have resulted in failure rates of 50 per cent and more in some cases. What's more, most of the computerized tests are performed on newer model vehicles, which under the former tailpipe measuring procedure would have passed easily. Many of the failures are the result of a 'not ready' message caused by a drained battery, or from the loss of emissions data on a vehicle's computer. Getting to 'ready' status can take days, leaving dealerships and customers extremely frustrated. Plus, customers are charged an additional $17.50 each time their vehicle is re-tested.

The original aim of Drive Clean was to reduce the amount of exhaust emissions into the atmosphere by identifying the most serious offenders. But the Ontario Auditor General's 2012 Annual Report stated that 75 per cent of lower vehicle emissions since 1999 have resulted from better manufacturing standards for emission-control equipment and federal requirements for cleaner fuel.

The Report concluded that the worst-polluting vehicles "are exempt from emissions testing or will be tested using a less stringent method." Vehicles built before 1988 are not required to be tested, even though they would likely have about a 30 per cent failure rate. In the Ontario Legislature on October 29, it was revealed Drive Clean is now generating a $19 million and growing profit — even though it was intended to operate as revenue neutral. The TADA is demanding the Ontario Government immediately lower the cost of emissions testing after revelations the current Drive Clean user fee has now become an illegal tax. In 1998, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that profits made from revenue neutral programs can be deemed an illegal tax and repayable.

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HONDA

Limited time lease and finance offers available through Honda Financial Services Inc. (HFS), on approved credit. Selling prices and payments include freight and PDI (ranges from $1,495 to $1,640 depending on 2013 model and $1,695 on advertised 2014 models), EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C levy ($100 except Civic DX and Fit DX models), and OMVIC fee ($5). Taxes, license, insurance, registration, and excess wear and tear are extra. ΩRepresentative bi-weekly lease example: 2013 Civic DX Sedan // 2014 CR-V LX 2WD on a 60 month term with 130 bi-weekly payments at 1.99% // 2.99% lease APR. Bi-weekly payment is $88 // $139 with $0 // $1,177 down or equivalent trade-in, $66 // $0 individual dealer contribution deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes, $0 security deposit, and first bi-weekly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $11,439.71 // $19,247.03. 120,000 kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. PPSA lien registration fee of $45.93 and lien registering agent's fee of $5.65, due at time of delivery are not included. Limited time SE Accessory Package installed for $4.88 more bi-weekly (plus taxes) on a 2014 CR-V LX 2WD includes all advertised items plus "SE" badge. †Representative bi-weekly finance example: 2013 Civic DX Sedan on an 84 month term with 182 bi-weekly payments at 1.99% APR [including $1,600 Finance incentive and $476.65 individual dealer contribution deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes]. Incentives apply only to Finance contracts through HFS, and can be combined with subvented rates of interest offered by Honda as part of a low rate interest program. Finance amount is $14,939. Cost of borrowing is $1,077.28 for a total finance obligation of $16,016.28 with $0 down or equivalent trade-in. *$500 Holiday Bonus offer applies only to retail customer purchase or lease agreements for new 2013 Civic, 2013 Fit and 2014 CR-V models concluded between November 1st, 2013 and December 2nd, 2013 at participating Ontario Honda Dealers. Deducted from the negotiated price after taxes and can be combined with advertised lease and finance rates. µLimited time 0.99% APR lease offers on remaining new 2013 Fit DX // 2013 Civic DX Sedan // 2013 CR-Z // 2013 Accord EX Coupe 6MT // 2013 Accord LX Sedan 6MT // 2013 CR-V LX 2WD for a maximum of 24 // 24 // 24 // 42 // 24 // 36 months. Representative lease example: 2013 Civic DX Sedan on a 24 month term at 0.99% lease APR, the monthly payment is $287.20 with $0 down or equivalent trade-in, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $6,892.80. 48,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. PPSA lien registration fee of $18.81 and lien registering agent's fee of $5.65, due at time of delivery are not included. ¨Receive 0.99% APR purchase financing on remaining new 2013 Fit DX // 2013 Civic DX Sedan // 2013 CR-Z // 2013 Accord EX Coupe 6MT // 2013 Accord LX Sedan 6MT // 2013 CR-V LX 2WD models for a maximum of 36 // 48 // 24 // 60 // 24 // 48 months. Representative finance example: 2013 Civic DX Sedan on a 24 month term at 0.99% APR and finance amount of $17,037.30 the monthly payment is $716.32. Cost of borrowing is $176.22 for a total finance obligation of $17,213.52 with $0 down or equivalent trade-in. •$1,500 // $1,500 // $3,000 // $1,500 // $2,000 // $3,500 // $2,000 // $2,500 // $4,000 // $5,000 // $5,000 customer cash incentive is valid on remaining new 2013 Fit (except DX) // 2013 Civic Coupe and Sedan (except DX Sedan) // 2013 Accord Coupe (except EX Coupe 6MT) // 2013 Accord Sedan (except LX Sedan 6MT, EX-L V6 Sedan and Touring V6 Sedan) // 2013 Accord EX-L V6 Sedan and Touring V6 Sedan // 2013 Crosstour EX 2WD and EX-L 2WD // 2013 Crosstour EX-L 4WD and EX-L 4WD NAVI // 2013 CR-V (except LX 2WD) // 2013 Odyssey // 2013 Pilot // 2013 Ridgeline models when registered and delivered between November 1st and December 2nd, 2013. Cash incentive is available for all Honda retail customers except customers who lease or finance through HFS at a subvented rate of interest offered by Honda as part of a low rate interest program. All advertised lease and finance rates are special rates. Cash incentive will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. For all offers: taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers only valid for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers, prices and features subject to change without notice. See your Ontario Honda Dealer or visit HondaOntario.com for full details. **Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between 1997 and December 2012. **Based on Fuel Consumption Guide ratings from Natural Resources Canada. Transport Canada approved test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors – use for comparison only.

Are you DEF? You heard right, diesel can be clean

DEF injections are now changing attitudes toward diesel. VOLKSWAGEN CANADA

Driving force. Clever urea and water solution is turning once-harmful fuel fumes into safe nitrogen and water vapour mix

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

Once used primarily in heavy-duty trucks, diesel is becoming more popular in passenger cars in Canada. Diesel engines are more efficient and get better fuel economy, and as a result, have longer range on a tank than comparable gasoline engines.

However, to meet strict North American emission standards, they require some extra exhaust treatment. Automakers use a Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) system. This includes the use of diesel exhaust fluid, or DEF, a pre-mixed solution of urea mixed with water, and sold under brand names such as AdBlue.

"By the nature of their combustion process, diesel engines put out different emissions than gasoline engines," says Thomas Tetzlaff, public relations manager for Volkswagen Canada. "Injecting very minute quantities of urea cleans up the nitrates in the exhaust and allows us to reach emissions levels that were previously impossible in a diesel car. All our diesels are certified in all U.S. states, including California, which has the strictest laws on the planet."

Diesel exhaust contains oxides of nitrogen, or NOx, a compound that contributes to smog. When small quantities of DEF are injected into the exhaust after it leaves the engine, it produces a chemical reaction that converts the NOx into nitrogen and water vapour, both of which are harmless.

The DEF isn't added to the fuel tank, and it doesn't travel into the engine. Instead, it's added to a special reservoir, with the filler neck located beside the fuel filler, in the trunk, or under the hood, depending on the vehicle and the manufacturer. It's automatically dispensed into the exhaust system as needed.

Although it's easy for drivers to add their own fluid, manufacturers size the reservoir so it will generally need filling at the same time the car is due for its scheduled maintenance, so the dealer can top it up at that time. "We have a large-capacity tank located in one of the fenders," Tetzlaff says. "It's filled up mostly once a year, and it's no more difficult than adding windshield washer fluid, and not a lot more expensive."

When the reservoir starts getting low, the vehicle will warn the driver several thousand kilometres in advance, and continue with regular warnings as the fluid level drops. If the reservoir runs dry, the car will continue to run, but once it's shut off, it won't start again until the DEF is replenished. The fluid can be purchased at dealerships, auto parts stores, and many gas stations.

Other changes

- All diesel sold in Canada must be ultra-low-sulphur, which doesn't have the "rotten egg" smell associated with diesel used in the past.
- Diesel engines use compression heat to ignite the fuel, and don't have spark plugs.
- Unlike older models, modern diesel engines start right away, without waiting for the glow plug to warm up.

Quoted

"Injecting tiny quantities of urea cleans up the nitrates in the exhaust and allows us to reach emissions levels that were previously impossible in a diesel car."

Thomas Tetzlaff, public relations manager for Volkswagen Canada

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†††0% APR purchase financing for up to 84 months is available on select new in-stock 2013 Mazda models. Terms vary by model. Finance Pricing for new 2013 Mazda3 (DK1049/5034/000) is $15,329.20 financed at 0% over 84 months equals bi-weekly payments of $106 with $0 down payment, cost of borrowing is $0 with a total obligation of $21,642. The 2013 Mazda BKVACTIV model is 04SK83AA30. Offer includes freight, P.D.E. and fees. Offer excludes HST. Offered leasing/financing available to retail customers only on approved credit. Lease offers vary by trim level/model. *Cash Rebate of $6,000 is available on the 2013 Mazda Speed 3 only- amounts vary for other models. For Mazda loyalty offer & Mazda Graduate rebate - conditions apply. Offer excludes HST, PPSA, license, insurance, taxes, down payment are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Offers valid until November 30th, 2013, while supplies last. Model may not be exactly as shown. Offers subject to change without notice. Visit Scarboro Mazda for details.

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
What looks so confusing now will look a lot easier by the end of the week, so don't worry if you cannot make sense of events. That applies especially to money matters and business issues.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Activity in your opposite sign of Scorpio will bring you up against someone who is like you in personality but has different views on how things should be done. Sparks may fly but you can work together.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Be wary of people who arrive bearing gifts. With Neptune, planet of illusion, strong in your chart, you should consider the possibility that they are hoping to trick you.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
The next few days will be good but why settle for good when they could be great? Define your goals and avoid activities that are wasteful of your time and energy — no matter how fun they are.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You may think if you don't act quickly you will miss the boat but it isn't true and what occurs over the next 24 hours will encourage you to calm down and slow down.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You cannot cure the world of its woes, but you can help people on a one-to-one basis. Whatever else you do or don't do today, aim to be a good example. Yes, it's enough.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
It may feel as if the fun is almost over, but it isn't true. Yes, you will have to get serious about work issues today and tomorrow but you will also have time to enjoy yourself.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The Sun in your sign continues to fill you with energy and you should be using it to bring creative ideas to life. What looked impossible yesterday will look the easiest thing in the world today. Go for it.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
A week and a bit from now the Sun will move into your birth sign and your mood will lighten, but today you are likely to be overly sensitive about everything. Keep your emotions in check.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The pace of life will pick up today, so hold on and enjoy the ride. If you get the chance to participate in some kind of social event do so, even if it means extra work.

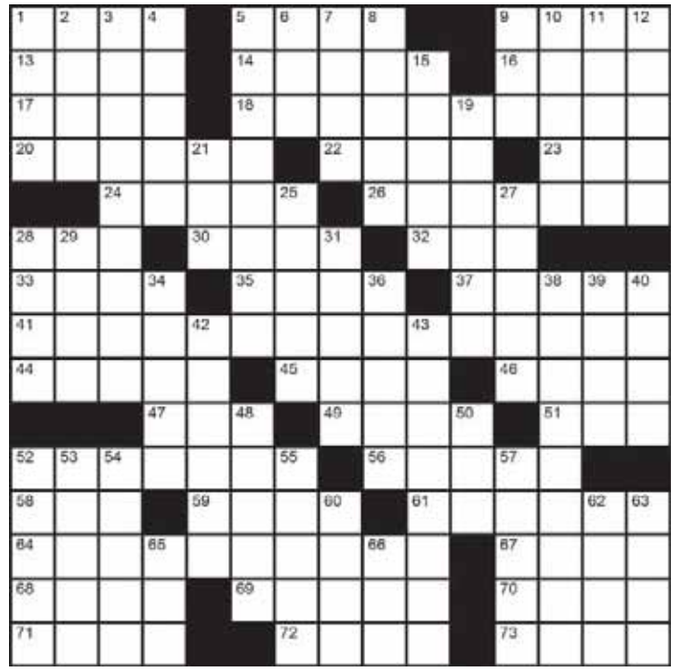
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You are right to be pleased by the things you've accomplished but there is a lot more you can do, so don't start winding down yet. A new opportunity will come your way over the next few days.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Neptune, your ruler, ends its retrograde phase today, which suggests you may change your mind about what you consider important. Try not to be too idealistic. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across

1. Var. weights
5. Small rum cake
9. Nero's 1151
13. Fashion's __-chic
14. Classic joke: "Waiter! There's _ __ in my soup..."
16. __. Ed. (Gym class)
17. Dangle
18. Suit part: 2 wds.
20. CTV's interactive daily talk show, "The __"
22. Fawn
23. Ms. Vardalos
24. "Mad Men" gig
26. Jennifer Stoddart, __ Commissioner of Canada
28. Horiz.
30. TV fuzz
32. "Cold Mountain" (2003) role
33. Feet finials
35. Podium
37. _-__ (Online appointment, say)
41. Views from ships approaching Newfoundland: 2 wds.
44. Von Trapps daughter
45. Italia's capital
46. ER doctor's 'Now!'
47. __ _ tree
49. Terrier's coat texture
51. Pro golfer Ernie
52. The Band's 1968 debut album: 'Music from __ __'
56. Beatles surname
58. Yoko's surname
59. Mrs. Krabappel, memorable teacher on "The Simpsons"
61. Mr. Estevez
64. Working vessel in Arctic waters
67. "__ Las Vegas" (1964)
68. Positive
69. Movie genre
70. Distant
71. Gaelic
72. Chess men, for short
73. Microscope piece

Down

1. 'For 1' and 'For 2', e.g., in restaurants
2. "__ that Shakespeherian Rag / It's so elegant / So intelligent." - T.S. Eliot
3. Wayne Gretzky's spanned 20 seasons.: 2 wds.
4. Dependable
5. Alberta: Drumheller's terrain
6. Egypt's cont.
7. Was cut, did this
8. Fabled fellow
9. Speedometer meas.
10. The Great Wall of __
11. Song segment
12. "Should _ __ or should..." - The Clash
15. Stars, in Latin
19. Beer mug, fancy-style
21. FMs opposites
25. What flat tires have in them: 2 wds.
27. "Quo __?" (Latin: Where are you going?)
28. Canadian director Mr. Egoyan
29. -Cola's partner
31. Spouseless she-spouse
34. Took notice: 2 wds.
36. 18-wheelers
38. Post-death kingdom, some believe
39. Frying pan, _-__
40. Approximations [abbr.]
42. Great hockey Right Winger, Mark __
43. Gabrielle of "Beverly Hills, 90210"
48. Famous mountains
50. Root vegetable
52. Idaho's capital
53. Acquire
54. Movie-__ (Film attendees)
55. "My Sharona" by The __
57. Competitor
60. Similar
62. Leo Tolstoy's The Death of __ Ilych
63. Paddles
65. Flower's friend
66. New newt

Yesterday's Crossword

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

					5	7	6	
6		2	9			1		
				8				
8							2	4
4	7		2		8		3	1
2	5							9
				1				
		7			4	3		2
	4	3	6					

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	9	2	1	3	8	5	7	4
4	5	8	7	6	2	9	3	1
1	7	3	4	5	9	6	8	2
2	4	9	6	8	7	3	1	5
5	6	7	9	1	3	2	4	8
8	3	1	5	2	4	6	9	7
3	1	6	8	7	5	4	2	9
9	2	5	3	4	1	7	8	6
7	8	4	2	9	6	1	5	3

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Sorento EX shown△

Rondo EX Luxury shown△

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CITY (M/T): 9.4L/100KM

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Kia's new Customer Friendly Pricing includes delivery and destination fees, dealer admin. fee up to $399 and all mandatory government levies. Prices do not include licensing or applicable taxes.

KIA The Power to Surprise

Offer(s) available on select new 2013/2014 models through participating dealers to qualified retail customers who take delivery by December 2, 2013. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers are subject to change without notice. All pricing includes delivery and destination fees up to $1,665, $34 tire recycling/filter charges, $5 OMVIC fee, environmental fee, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399) and $100 A/C charge (where applicable) and excludes licensing, registration, insurance, other taxes and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other lease and financing options also available. **0% purchase financing is available on select new 2013/2014 Kia models O.A.C. Terms vary by model and trim, see dealer for complete details. ¤"Don't Pay Until Spring" offer (180-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing on select new 2014 models. No interest will accrue during the first 150 days of the finance contract. After this period, interest accrues and the purchaser will repay both the principal and interest monthly over the contract's term. ≠Bi-weekly finance payment O.A.C. for new 2014 Sorento 2.4L LX AT FWD (SR75BE)/2014 Forte Sedan LX MT (FO54BE)/2014 Rondo LX MT (RN95BE) based on a selling price of $28,893/$17,913/$23,893 is $159/$98/$127 with an APR of 0% for 60/84/84 months, amortized over an 84-month period. Estimated remaining principal balance of $8,255/$0/$0 plus applicable taxes due at end of 60-month period. Offer includes loan savings of $0/$0/$750. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. ∞NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Phase 1: the mail-in entry period for phase 1 begins on October 29, 2013, at 12:00:01 a.m. Eastern Time and ends on November 27, 2013, at 11:59:59 p.m. ET. The vehicle purchase entry period for phase 1 begins on November 1, 2013, at the start of regular business hours at participating Kia dealerships in Canada and ends at the close of regular business hours at participating dealerships on November 30, 2013. Phase 2: the mail-in entry period for phase 2 begins on November 26, 2013, at 12:00:01 a.m. Eastern Time and ends on December 26, 2013, at 11:59:59 p.m. ET. The vehicle purchase entry period for phase 2 begins on December 1, 2013, at the start of regular business hours at participating dealerships and ends at the close of regular business hours at participating dealerships on December 30, 2013. Open to age-of-majority residents of Canada. 60 Prizes (30 attributed to Phase 1 and 30 attributed to Phase 2), each consisting of a cheque that may range in value from $35,350 to $46,859. Odds of winning a Phase 1 Prize depend on the number of eligible Phase 1 Entries received before the applicable Phase 1 Draw Date. Odds of winning a Phase 2 Prize depend on the number of eligible Phase 2 Entries received before the applicable Phase 2 Draw Date. Skill-testing question required. For full contest rules and no-purchase entry details, visit www.kia.ca. ‡Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2014 Sorento 3.3L EX AT AWD (SR75HE)/2014 Forte SX (FO74BE)/2014 Rondo EX Luxury (RN75GE) is $34,195/$26,195/$32,195. ^ Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2014 Sorento LX 2.4L GDI 4-cyl (A/T)/2014 Forte 1.8L MPI 4-cyl (M/T)/2014 Rondo 2.0L GDI 4-cyl (M/T). These updated estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.